

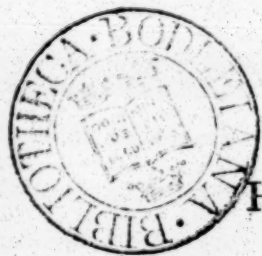
Committee of Council for Trade

View of real Grievances:

O R

A Dissertation on the State of the Poor
in this Kingdom:

SHEWING BY WHAT MEANS THE POOR RATES
HAVE GROWN TO SUCH AN ENORMOUS
HEIGHT, WITH REMEDIES PROPOSED
FOR REDRESSING THEM.



Humbly submitted to the CONSIDERATION of the

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

*Consulite in medium, & rebus succurite fessis:
Nunc res ipsa vocat.* VIR.

THE SECOND EDITION.

L Y N N:

PRINTED BY W. WHITTINGHAM, AND SOLD BY
R. BALDWIN, PATER-NOSTER-ROW; AND
W. LANE, LEADENHALL-STREET,
LONDON.

MD CC LXXXVI.

232. f. 91. 31

1830-1831

1831-1832

1832-1833

1833-1834

1834-1835

1835-1836

1836-1837

1837-1838

1838-1839

1839-1840

1840-1841

1841-1842

1842-1843

1843-1844

1844-1845

1845-1846

1846-1847

1847-1848

1848-1849

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
WILLIAM PITT,
FIRST LORD OF THE TREASURY,
CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, &c.

SIR,

THE Enquiries which have lately been made thro' every Part of the Kingdom respecting the State of the Poor, will I trust plead an Excuse for the Liberty I have taken in presenting this to you.— Every Information on that Subject, especially at a Time when it is become an Object of Parliamentary Attention, must be entitled at least to a candid Acceptance. The Author of this Treatise was a Gentleman thoroughly conversant with the Mode of managing the Poor in various Parishes. For several Years he was employed in digesting a Plan for their better Relief, and with a View in some Measure to exonerate the Public from the heavy Expence incurred by Poor Rates. The enor-

mous Sums of Money raised on that Account are a Burden severely felt by the Community at large, and loudly solicit the united Efforts of the Legislature for Redress. The high and distinguished Honour which YOUR Station is entitled to in the legislative Body of this Kingdom; and the Confidence, which the Public repose in YOUR Virtue and Abilities, give us Reason to hope that such Methods will be adopted, as tend to promote the mutual Advantages of Society. With the profoundest Veneration for YOUR great Qualities, and the sincerest Wishes for YOUR long continuing to preside over the Affairs of this Kingdom,

I remain, SIR,

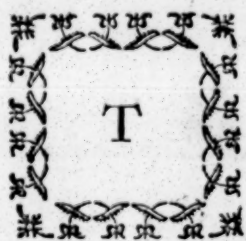
Your most devoted,

LYNN, OCTOBER
22th, 1786.

and obedient

Humble Servant,

William Whittingham.



H A T the industri-
ous Poor, in every
Country, are the
most useful Part of
the Community; and that the
Riches, Strength, and Power
of every Nation are proporti-
onable to the Number, Labour,
and moral Behavior of those
valuable Members of Society,
are Truths that claim the At-
tention, and merit the serious
Confideration of all Ranks of
People. Nature and sound Po-
licy requiring that the most
prudent Measures should be ta-
ken to render them useful to

B

the

the State. For these obvious Reasons all civilized Nations have always endeavoured to enact Laws for the Encouragment of the Industrious, and for discountenancing Idleness, which is the Parent of most Vices.

It would be difficult, indeed, to name any Country where the Legislature hath sufficiently provided for these Ends. But it is beyond all Doubt, clear, that those Countries have been the happiest and most powerful, *Cæteris paribus*, which have, in these Respects, made the most perfect Provisions.

THE Government in our own Country, in particular, has had a watchful Eye over the Conduct of the lower Class of People.

SOME

SOME of our Laws encourage, others compel, them to be industrious. The Parishes, where they have gained Settlements, are obliged to furnish them with Necessaries of Life, when Sickness or the Infirmities of old Age, have rendered them incapable of providing for themselves.

THESE Endeavors, to promote the Happiness of the lowest of our Kind, are a Proof of the Humanity and Benevolence of the Opulent, and particularly of the Government; though they have not produced the good Effect proposed. Tis greatly to be lamented that the Provision for the Poor, established by Law, is become exceedingly burthensome, and that their Morals are debased, and will prove much worse, if

not prevented by some new and
salutary Laws.

“ THE Laws, which were
 “ originally intended to discour-
 “ rage Idleness, and to promote
 “ the Welfare of the Poor and
 “ Public Utility, are the Source
 “ of their Misery, and impair
 “ the internal Strength and
 “ Power of the Kingdom. Great
 “ Numbers of them being con-
 “ vinced and satisfied, that their
 “ respective Parishes are obli-
 “ ged to maintain them, dis-
 “ regard future Wants, and,
 “ though with Importunity
 “ solicited, refuse to work above
 “ three or four Days in the
 “ Week. By their Extrava-
 “ gance and waste of Time,
 “ they also make Labor dear,
 “ enhance the Prices of our Ma-
 “ nufactures, so as to prevent
 “ the

“ the Sale of them in foreign
 “ Markets, and consequently
 “ to the Public incredible Dis-
 “ service. The Distress, in which
 “ they involve themselves, is
 “ beyond all Description.”

“ THEY drink and game
 “ while their Families are starv-
 “ ing and wretched. And when,
 “ by Sicknefs, old Age, or Acci-
 “ dents, they are rendered inca-
 “ pable of Work, they come to
 “ the Parish ; here their Situa-
 “ tion is terrible indeed. But
 “ notwithstanding the Wretch-
 “ edness of their Condition, I
 “ will not paint it, lest I should
 “ be thought to write a Satire
 “ upon the Cruelty of Parish
 “ Officers, to whom the State
 “ has committed the Care of
 “ the Poor.”

It is allowed to be commendable in any Member of a Commonwealth, to communicate to the Public, with a due Deference to his Superiors, what he really thinks to be the Cause of any public Grievance to his Country, and to propose Means to remedy the Evil, for the Consideration of those abler Persons in the Administration, who, by moving in a higher Sphere, may not have Opportunities of observing the Causes or Effects of many general Complaints.

It is the Hope and Wish of the Public, that the Ministry would be at Leisure and disposed to attend to any Proposals that shall be laid before them for lessening our Taxes, and extending our Trade, which, by producing a spirit of Industry,
could

could not but improve the Morals of the lower Class of People, and render them more powerful and happy.

INCITED by these Considerations, I take the Liberty of laying before the Public the following Sheets, presuming, if the Proposals and Observations which they exhibit, should not contribute to the Welfare and Improvement of the State, and receive general Approbation, that they will neither add to the Grievances of the Times, nor give Offence to any candid, wise and good Men, with whom Purity of Intentions, and the Importance of the Subjects discussed, never fail to plead very powerfully in Favor of both.

To give a Detail of the Miseries of the various Poor, with the Inconveniencies and Evils arising from them to the Community, would be a disagreeable, as well as an unnecessary Task.

THE Number of Vagrants who shamefully infest all the Parts of this Kingdom, and, by assuming the Appearance of Distress, extort Pity, and defraud the Charitable and well-disposed, of immense Sums of Money, is incredible†. By suffering them to live in this dissolute and abandoned Manner, without Restraint, and in Opposition to the Laws of a Country, whose Form of Government is the Admiration

† A begging Fryar at Paris boasted that his Wallet was 8000 Livres a Year.

tion and Envy of all Europe, the Kingdom suffers very great Detriment from the Loss of their Labor, &c. &c.

VAGRANTS should be taken up and committed to Houses of Correction, where they ought to be confined to hard Labour, till they give Proofs of Reformation and Amendment. When they have defrayed the Expences which attend carrying them before a Magistrate, conveying them to these Houses, and furnishing them with Provisions, Cloaths, Washing, &c. agreeably to a Plan proposed in this Treatise, they should be dismissed and conducted, without any Marks of Infamy, to their respective Settlements.

“ A SOCIETY

“ A S O C I E T Y formed in
 “ France, for the Encourage-
 “ ment and Improvement of
 “ Agriculture, delivered in
 “ March, 1763, to the Comp-
 “ troler-General of the Finan-
 “ ces, a Memorial on Vaga-
 “ bonds, in the Conclusion of
 “ which they say, there is no-
 “ thing requisite but to renew,
 “ with some little Variation,
 “ the Declaration of the 28th
 “ January, 1687. Happy
 “ would France have been, had
 “ that salutary Law been ever-
 “ since observed. Agriculture
 “ would have been rid of a Bur-
 “ den that overwhelms it; the
 “ State would have cut off the
 “ Source of Crimes; it would
 “ not have had the Grief of
 “ punishing with Death so
 “ great a Number of Malefac-
 “ tors; it would have saved
 “ great

“ great Part of the Expence
 “ attending the Trials of Cri-
 “ minals ; it would have been
 “ enriched by the Labor of all
 “ those, whom the fear of Pu-
 “ nishment would have deterred
 “ from that Way of living, and
 “ which is inestimable ; it would
 “ have profited by the Population
 “ of so great a Number of Sub-
 “ jects, which it has lost. Who
 “ can say how many Thou-
 “ sands it might have amount-
 “ ed to in a Century ? This
 “ Swarm of domestic Enemies
 “ should be suppressed. The
 “ Evil is urgent ; Vagabonds
 “ were never so numerous as at
 “ present ; never did they be-
 “ have with so much Insolence,
 “ nor commit so many Outra-
 “ ges.”

THIS

“ THIS Memorial has at
“ length produced an Edict a-
“ gainst Beggars, 21st of Au-
“ gust, and appears to be well
“ calculated for suppressing
“ those Pests of Civil Society,
“ and suitably providing at the
“ same Time, for the truly In-
“ digent.”

“ THE [a] French King has
“ issued a Declaration for ap-
“ prehending all Vagabonds,
“ and People who have no vi-
“ sible way of Livelihood, in
“ the different Provinces.”

“ CHILDREN under 16 are to
“ be sent to the Charity Hof-
“ pitals or Work-houses, and
“ there instructed and support-
“ ed, and not to be permitted
“ to

[a] Fas est, &c,

“ to quit them, but by the
 “ King’s Order. All in gene-
 “ ral, who are able, both Men
 “ and Women, Old and Young,
 “ are to be made for the Future
 “ to earn their Subsistence.”

BUT how intolerable a Bur-
 then are the parochial Poor in
 our own Country, to the little,
 but industrious Farmers, and to
 Tradesmen of an inferior Rank,
 of whom there are great Num-
 bers, who are obliged to con-
 tribute to the Relief of those
 who live in greater Plenty, as
 well as Idleness in their Sup-
 porters.

IT is a general Complaint
 that the Poor-rates are prodi-
 giously encreased within a few
 Years.—In a Parish where I am
 concerned, the Lands were af-
 fessed

fessed in the Year 1744, at one Shilling an Acre, and the Houses at two Shillings in the Pound for the Payment of the Poor-rates. But the Laziness and Extravagance of the common People are now so enormous, that the Lands were this last Year, laid at three Shillings and Eight-pence an Acre, and the Houses at seven Shillings and Four-pence in the Pound. In a Parish with which I have some Connections, they pay two Shillings and Three-pence in the Pound, for the Maintenance of the Poor; though about twenty-five Years since, it was with some Difficulty they prevailed upon an industrious Person in low Circumstances to accept of Six-pence a Week to prevent their being laid to another Parish. I could also mention a populous Parish,

 where

where the Poor Rates, 50 Years ago, were not more then 6d. in the Pound, though they are now 3s. 6d. The Poor's Rate in the Year 1764, amounted to more than 2,200,000l. an astonishing and intolerable Sum, considerably greater than what used to defray the Expences of Government towards the Conclusion of the last Century.

SOME Measures should be taken to lessen these Expences.

THOUGH there is a high Probability that the Scheme for erecting general Workhouses, drawn up by an able Lawyer, under the Direction of a worthy Member of Parliament, and brought into the House of Commons by that Gentleman, would be a Means of reducing those Rates

Rates for a Time ; yet as it is a precarious Undertaking, and the erecting and furnishing so great a Number of Buildings, must amount to an amazing Sum of Money, it is worth while to consider whether some other Method may not be thought of that will be attended with less Hazard and Expence. An Investigation of the Causes or Reasons, why the Poor, who receive Collection, are so numerous and burdensome to the Publick, will greatly assist us in this Enquiry.

Idleness and Intemperance bring on Poverty, Diseases, and other Misfortunes. But Persons of all Ranks, especially those whose Income arises from their Labor, spend too much of their Time and Money in *Taverns*
or

or *Alehouses*. The Community, therefore, must certainly be very much injured by the Abundance of *Tipling-Houses*, by Spirituous Liquors and an incredible Number of Objects of Entertainment, such as Skittle-grounds, Bowling-allies, Suffle-boards, Biliard-tables, Card-clubs, and many other Kinds of Public and open Gaming, which every sensible Man must observe with Concern, as he cannot but see the cruel Tendency of all these Evils to the Ruin of Individuals, and to the great Reproach of our Government.

JOURNEYMEN, without Number, of all Trades, and Day Labourers, frequently begin and end the Week in these Pest-houses. To observe their Sottishness, Rudeness, Quarrels and
C Distresses

Distresses, cannot but affect every Well-wisher to Society.

These Calamities, and a Thousand others, daily break in upon the Substance and Morals of the common People, from the pernicious Spring of Tipling Houses, and the various Inticements that are invented and set out to View in squandering away Money, Time and Health, Credit and every Thing that is valuable.

JUDGE WILLES, in a spirited Charge to the grand Jury of Northumberland, at the Assizes held in August, 1771, enforced “ a serious Attention
 “ to the licencing Alehouses ;
 “ he declared, with Concern,
 “ that he really attributed the
 “ dissolute Lives of a great Part
 “ of our Manufacturers, &c. to
 “ the great Number of such
 low

“ low Tipling-houses ; that he
 “ was sorry to observe to them,
 “ that, in his Opinion, our
 “ manufactured Goods being
 “ underfold by others in foreign
 “ Markets, was entirely owing
 “ to the same Cause.”

Lest this general Representation of Things should be considered as mere Declamation, I shall support and enforce this Reasoning by an Induction of Facts, that have fallen under my Observation, not without appealing to the candid Reader, whether similar Cases have always escaped his Notice? There are in the Parish where I live, three sober Families, who, by totally keeping from Alehouses, and brewing a little wholesome, though not very strong Beer, at

Home, have † never been burthenfome to the Parifh, even in the Times of Sicknefs and Scarcity. Though there are Children in each of thefe Families, they never want the common Neceffaries of Life, and are always decently clad.

IN

† Since this Paragraph was drawn up, one of thefe induftrious Families has received a Shilling a Week, upon a true Representation made that one of the Sons, who is 21 Years of Age, is by the Means of an Epilepfy, rendered incapable of helping himfelf. But it fhould be obferved that the Mother is alfo helpless, and that the poor Father, by the Sweat of whofe Brow the receive their Subfiftence, is upwards of 60 Years old.

IN one of these poor, though very deserving Families, there is a very remarkable Case: the Husband, whose mental Abilities are greatly below what falls to the Lot of the generality of Men, is uncommonly awkward and slow at his Work, and consequently paid a Shilling a Week less for his Labor, than those of his own Rank; yet, as he never consumes his Time, nor spends his Money at an Ale-house, he maintains himself and Family very comfortably. I could name a large Parish where the Poor's-rate had been remarkably low, for many Years, on Account of their having no Public-house. However, a few Years since, a House was licensed, the Consequence of which was, that the Expence of providing for the Poor was in-

C 3

credibly

credibly increased, through the many Scenes of Drunkenness, and other Irregularities, encouraged and carried on in this very Alehouse. The principal Inhabitants, convinced of their own Weakness and Folly, in suffering an Alehouse to be opened, desired the neighbouring Justices to withdraw the Licence, upon an Exhibition of a Proof of its Irregularities. The Magistrates complied with this reasonable Request, and in a very little Time, the Poor-rates were of Course reduced. The late Baptist Lee, Esq; of Livermore, about six Miles from Bury in Suffolk, had by his Influence, with his Brother Justices, never suffered but one Alehouse to be opened in nine contiguous Parishes. The Consequence was, that the Poor were all frugal and

in

industrious, and the Poor-rates very moderate, &c.

THREE Gentlemen who formerly differed in Opinion with me upon this Subject, told me very lately that they are now convinced, from their own Observations, that Alehouses are the chief Cause of the Poverty and Distresses of the Poor. Many low Country Villages can date the Commencement of their Poor-rates, from the Introduction of Public Houses amongst them. From these Circumstances it appears that Alehouses corrupt the Morals, and impair the Health, impoverish and reduce the Poor to the greatest Penury and Distress, instead of instilling into the Minds of their Children any Sense of their Duty, they suffer them to stroll a-

about and beg, if not to pilfer and steal. Instead of paying any Regard to the Day set apart, by the Laws of God and Man, for the most excellent Purposes, they crowd into these detestable Nurseries of Vice, and run into all Excess of Riot and Intemperance, like the Votaries of a Heathen Bacchus. They wallow in Sensuality and the grossest Impurities, instead of attending at those Places of Worship where they might be instructed in the Nature of the different Branches of their Duty,

ALEHOUSES are the Bane of Industry, the Ruin of the common People. The national Evils of which they are productive, may be compared to Wounds in the human Body, which, though

though not dangerous at first, through Neglect spread to an incurable Gangrene. And it is to be feared they will increase, if not prevented by the timely Care of the Legislature, to the Destruction of the Body Politic. It is an old and very just Observation, that a Cause is no sooner eradicated but the Effect consequently ceases.

“ PUBLIC Houses were originally intended for the Reception of Travellers only. The antient, true and principal Use of Inns, Alehouses and victualling Houses, was for the receiving, retaining, and lodging of way-faring People, travelling from Place to Place, and for such Supply of the Wants of such People, as are not able by greater
“ Quantities

“ Quantities to make their
 “ Provisions of Victuals,
 “ and not meant for the En-
 “ tertainment and harbouring
 “ of lewd and idle People, to
 “ spend and consume their Mo-
 “ ney, and their Time, in a
 “ lewd and drunken Manner.”

1 *Jac. I. C. 9.*

BUT Public-houses are the
 chief Causes of the Immorality,
 Poverty, and Distresses of the
 common People.

NOTHING less, therefore, than
 the total Suppression of those
 Houses can effect a Change in
 the Morals of that Class of Peo-
 ple, make them industrious, and
 a Blessing, instead of what they
 now are, a Burthen to the Com-
 munity. All Alehouses, in
 Country Parishes, should be si-
 lenc'd,

lenced, and only a sufficient Number for the Accommodation of Travellers, even in Cities and Market-Towns, should be permitted to vend Ale and other Liquors.

By the Means of such a Regulation, the common People would be Strangers to Drunkenness and Debauchery. Such a Restriction would increase the Quantity and reduce the price of Labor, and would be productive of many other happy and signal Consequences, too obvious to be enumerated,

BUT here it will naturally be objected, that there are several Lodgers and some Families, who, as they cannot conveniently purchase Utensils for brewing, must, upon this Plan, want a very essential Necessary
of

of Life. The Truth and Reasonableness of the Objection are admitted.

For the Conveniency of such People, therefore, Houses may be licenced to sell twelve Shilling Beer, such as is used by most Families in London for common Drink : under these Restrictions, the Poor in general, in Country Places, and even in most large Towns and Cities, would furnish themselves with Malt, and would brew, to their very great Benefit and Advantage; and those who should not chuse to take this Trouble upon themselves, as well as the few who are incapable of doing it, might supply themselves upon easy Terms, with this cheap and nourishing, though not intoxicating Liquor.

THUS

THUS, avoiding Idleness, Extravagance and intemperate Cups, which are more dangerous than Poison, they would soon by the Means of honest Industry and a proper Application of the Gains, arising from it, abound in the Necessaries and Conveniencies of Life, nor would many of them want any Relief from those, to whom through Pride, Sloth and Drunkenness, they are become an intolerable Burthen.

WHOEVER considers that the Number of common Brewers, Masters of Inns, and Alehouses in the Kingdom is now more than 40,000, cannot but be of Opinion, that one Fourth of them will be abundantly sufficient for all the Purposes for which Public Houses were originally

nally intended. Admitting this Truth, the remaining 30,000, with their Families, capable of Work, may be laid at 90,000, but deducting out of this Number 10,000 who have gained Money enough by prostituting their Integrity to the Passions and Vices of Mankind, to enable themselves to consume the Remainder of their Lives in an inglorious Indolence, there still will be 80,000 of them, who may be employed in some useful Branches of Business, so as to add annually to the National Wealth 1,287,000*l*. upon a Supposition that they get a Shilling a Day, one with another.

BUT a more formidable Argument in Favour of Public Houses, is raised by those Sort of Men, who are for giving every

ry Encouragement to the Public Revenue, and consequently assert, that a Restraint upon the Tap would be a Detriment to the Excise.

“ I AM very sensible that the
 “ real and artificial Necessities
 “ of Government are very great,
 “ but I never can persuade myself,
 “ that the best Way of
 “ serving our King and Country
 “ is by ruining the Lives
 “ and Fortunes of the People,
 “ unless some Financier shall
 “ convince me that the more
 “ we are drained the more able
 “ we shall be to pay ; and the
 “ fewer useful Hands we have,
 “ the cheaper and more plentiful
 “ will be our Manufactures
 “ and Provisions.

THE

“ THE Farmer and Maltster
 “ may likewise say it is of Na-
 “ tional Utility to promote
 “ their Produce and Trade.
 “ To which I answer, it is a
 “ Heavenly Blessing to see good
 “ Crops upon our Land, and a
 “ laudable Industry to convert
 “ them to the Support of its
 “ Inhabitants ; yet when I re-
 “ flect that a great Part of our
 “ glorious Plenty is every Year
 “ turned into Streams of Dis-
 “ order and Ruin, such Misap-
 “ plication abates my Zeal for
 “ the Benefit, and sometimes
 “ brings into my Mind the Re-
 “ port made by the Spies, sent
 “ by Moses, to examine the
 “ Land of Canaan, who said it
 “ was a land flowing with
 “ Milk and Honey, but at the

“ same

“ same Time a Land that devoured its Inhabitants”.

BUT the principal Instrument of Poverty and Death, are the Common Brewers and Distillers†, who, not contented with such Trade and Gain as might fairly and spontaneously arise, are known to buy up paltry Houses and settle Retailers in every little Parish, as well as in every Town and City, and for fear there should be a Place in the Kingdom, exempt from their Advantage, we have scarce a Village without some of their

D Cottages

† The Quantity of Grain consumed in the Distillery exceeds all Belief, and is of the greatest Detriment to the Community. *Vid. P. 250, 1.*

Cottages and Huts, where Servants and Labourers, inferior Tradesmen and Handicraftsmen, young People and old, are seduced and allured by various Sports, Pastimes, and Fooleries, till intoxicated with every Mixture that can tempt the Palate and drain the Pocket, they swallow in like Swine, the Filth of Debauchery, and are a Disgrace to our Laws, and a Reproach to human Nature.

“ ALEHOUSES in Villages are
 “ the Seats, the Seminaries of
 “ every Vice which can corrupt
 “ and ruin the People,
 “ and render useless the
 “ Church. Here Idleness,

“ Drunkenness,

“ Drunkenness, Gaming, Lewd-
 “ ness, Cursing, &c. are pro-
 “ fessed, and practised, inso-
 “ much, that one of the most
 “ desirable Circumstances of
 “ a rural Neighbourhood,
 “ is not to want, and there-
 “ fore not to tolerate an
 “ Alehouse. If decent Far-
 “ mers are encouraged by
 “ good Landlords to that De-
 “ gree, as to be able to brew
 “ Small-beer and Ale, suffici-
 “ ent for their Families and
 “ poor Neighbours, which
 “ they will be able to do at a
 “ much cheaper Rate than they
 “ can buy it at the Alehouse,
 “ (almost half of the whole
 “ Price) Alehouses may, in

“ Thou-

“ Thousands of Parishes, be
 “ totally pulled down, as they
 “ ought, as some of the great-
 “ est Nuisances,—and which,
 “ more than all others, ren-
 “ der ineffectual the Labours
 “ of the Master of the Par-
 “ sonage*”.

BUT I have often heard it as-
 serted, with some aggravating
 Circumstances, by Persons of
 Penetration and Abilities, that
 the Exigencies of Government
 are so great and enormous, that
 no Tax or Excise will ever be

taken

* See the ingenious and worthy Mr.
 Comber's *Free and Candid Correspon-*
dence.

taken off, though it were to save the lower Class of People from Ruin and Destruction.

WHETHER the State of our Affairs is so desperate or not, I leave to our Coffee-house Politicians to determine.

ALLOWING, however, that this bold Assertion is not entirely without Foundation, it is easy, in the Case before us, to guard against any Difficulties to be dreaded from it.

THE Sum deducted from the Revenue of the Excise by reducing the Number of Public-houses, in the Article of Li-

cences only, would amount to more than 50,000*l*. But a Duty upon 10,000 Licences, at 5 Guineas each, would be a Compensation for this Loss. And I am persuaded that the Deficiency in the Excise, occasioned by the Reformation here proposed, in the Sale of Malt Liquors, would be amply made up by laying an additional Duty upon Malt of two Shillings a Bushel.

THERE is another Reason why the Revenue would not be diminished by it. If our Journeymen, Manufacturers, Day Labourers, &c. could be brought to pay a Regard to the Laws of Sobriety, the Deficiency of the

Duty,

Duty, occasioned by the Reduction of Alehouses, would be supplied by their new Mode of living; as their Wives and Children would partake of the additional Gains, arising from their Industry, the Quantity of wholesome Liquor which they would drink, whether brewed at Home or abroad, or bought at the Twelve Shilling Beer Houses, would be very great, though by no Means unnecessary, and consequently would very much increase the Consumption of Malt.

BESIDES these poor People, who now pay as much again for all the Beer they drink as the more opulent Housekeeper does, who brews his own Drink, would, by the Alteration here proposed, at least in this Re-

spect, be upon a Footing with their richer Neighbours, who brew and pay no Excise for their Beer, but what is levied upon Malt.

THIS Proposal for reducing three Fourths of our Alehouses, would, I am persuaded, tend more to the Reformation of the common People, and Reduction of the Poor-rates, than any other that has been suggested, or, however, that has come under my Notice.

BUT as it might probably have the Appearance of an Abridgment of the justly applauded, though abused English Liberties, some Expedient might be found to do it gradually. Suppose then that Licences were not granted or continued to
any

any Person for keeping an Ale-house, but such as produce Bondsmen in † 100*l.* forfeitable upon Complaint and legal Conviction of any Irregularity in his House, such as Gaming, drawing Liquors after 10 o' Clock at Night, or on Sundays, excepting to Travellers, besides being rendered incapable of having a future Licence: the Penalty should be levied without Mitigation, and appropriated to the Support of the Poor, allowing out of it the incidental Expences, and 5*l.* to the Informer.

EVEN this Expedient could not but greatly reduce the Number of these Houses of Seduction

† The present Security given is only, &c. &c.

tion to Vice and Indigence. And till something of this Kind is done, I am clear that to enact the best Laws in the World, for the Support and Encouragement of the Poor, will be like raising a pompous Structure, while an implacable Enemy is secretly sapping the Foundation of it,

BUT, after all, was such a Reduction of Alehouses, and such a Change in the Mode of selling Ale to take Place, and to occasion a Deficiency in the Revenue, that Consideration should never come in Competition with the Morals, Health, and Lives of the labouring Poor, who are the Source of our Wealth and Happiness, Power and Glory.

THE

THE admitting these Houses to exist under the Sanction of Law, when they exhibit such Scenes of Drunkenness, Riot and Dissipation, because they increase the Revenue, tho' at the Expence of the Health and Strength, the Industry and Morals of the People, is a wretched and abominable Policy ; which does Dishonour to natural, as well as revealed Religion, and can be countenanced by no Man, who has any Regard for the Welfare of Mankind, or the true Interest of Society.

SUCH Policy has a direct Tendency to Increase the Num-

ber

ber of the Poor, and the Taxes, with many other Inconveniences. A Revenue arising from such Causes, ought not to come in Competition with the Lives and Morals of so many useful Subjects.

THE Evils arising from the immoderate Use of Gin, previous to the Act, which restrains the Sale of it, were innumerable. Many of the Lovers of that pernicious Liquor were frequently found inebriated and dead drunk, even in the Streets. Others by swallowing large Draughts, fell immediate Victims to it.

THE Government therefore wisely disregarded the Loss of
the

the Duty, when compared with the Loss of the Subjects carried off by that poisonous Spirit. Taxes, where the Commodity upon which they are laid corrupt the Morals and destroy the Lives of the Subjects, should never be considered as an Advantage to the State.

HAVING obviated the Objections raised upon a Supposition that this Scheme would diminish the Taxes appropriated for defraying the Expences of Government, I have only to add that it would be of great Utility to the Public to continue the Licences to the old and infirm, that the younger People may

be

be employed in adding by their Labour to the National Wealth. They would then atone for their past Indolence and useless, not to say vicious Course of Life.

THE Laws relating to Parish Settlements, are another great Cause of increasing the Poor-rates.

“ THIS Introduction of Settlements, together with the
“ Subdivision of Parishes, hath
“ been attended with infinite
“ Frauds and Inconveniencies.
“ No sooner were Settlements
“ introduced than Parish Officers employed their whole

“ Attention,

“ Attention, not how to main-
“ tain their Poor, but how to get
“ rid of them, which gave Rise
“ to perpetual Contentions be-
“ tween Parish and Parish,
“ which subsist to this Day.
“ Such Artifices as these, are
“ not only repugnant to the
“ Poor Laws, but subversive of
“ the Principles of Humanity,
“ with Respect to the unhappy
“ Objects of them.

“ AMONG other Abuses
“ which are most obvious, in
“ the present System of these
“ Laws, the Misapplication of
“ the immense Sums raised for
“ the Relief of the Poor, calls
“ loudly for Redress†”.

I HAVE

† Advertisement prefixed to a Digest
of the Poor Laws, published this Year.

I HAVE attended for many Years at a Country Sessions, where, to the best of my Remembrance, we have seldom had less at a Sitting than two or three Trials about Settlement. Two, three or more Counsels are sometimes employed, either to give their Opinions, or to plead at the Decision of those Causes; each Parish has always an Attorney and generally several Witnesses to pay, so that the Expence which attends these unnecessary Disputes, are upon an Average 9 or 10 Guineas each.

“ It

“ It is scarce to be credited,
 “ says the ingenious Writer a-
 “ bove quoted, and yet the Fact
 “ is undoubted, that the yearly
 “ Burthen of the Poor to this
 “ Kingdom, exceeds the A-
 “ mount of the Land Tax,
 “ when at 4 Shillings in the
 “ Pound ; yet, notwithstand-
 “ ing these vast Sums, annu-
 “ ally raised for their Relief,
 “ many unhappy Wretches
 “ perish from real Want, while
 “ others reject the Provision
 “ made for them, and by beg-
 “ ing, find Means to raise large
 “ Contributions from the Ten-
 “ der-hearted, which they
 “ squander in Dissoluteness and
 “ Intemperance.

“ THESE voluntary Alms, if
 “ added, as they justly may
 “ be, to the Poor's Tax, would
 “ make

“ make the Sum incredible
 “ indeed.

“ THERE can scarce be a
 “ greater Reproach to the Po-
 “ licy of a Nation, than that such
 “ immense Sums should be rais-
 “ ed on the Public, and the
 “ Application of them reach so
 “ few of the Objects they are
 “ intended to relieve. The
 “ Reproach is the stronger when
 “ we consider in what Manner
 “ the Fund is dissipated, and
 “ that the greater Part of it is
 “ shamefully consumed in Pa-
 “ rochial Feasting, and obsti-
 “ nate Litigations. It is well
 “ known that more Money is
 “ often squandered about the
 “ Settlement of a single Person,
 “ than would maintain the
 “ Pauper and his Family for
 “ many Years. Add to this, that
 “ the

“ the Poor under particular
 “ Circumstances, are denied
 “ immediate Relief, and left to
 “ perish before the Provision
 “ which the Laws have made
 “ can reach them.

“ THAT it would be of great
 “ Publick Utility, therefore,
 “ either to annul or alter the
 “ Laws, requires no kind of
 “ Proof, provided any Method
 “ could be substituted to make
 “ a more judicious Provision
 “ for the Poor, and at the same
 “ Time to lessen the Poor’s
 “ Rate”.

WAS the whole Nation con-
 sidered, not as many, but as
 one extensive Parish, the pro-
 digious Sums foolishly and pre-
 posterously thrown away about
 Settlements, would go a great
 E Way

Way towards relieving and providing for the Poor. And as many ignorant Creatures are influenced, not to say suborned, by the Overseers and other principal Inhabitants, to give in false Testimonies, to secure a Determination favourable to their respective Parishes, the Abolition of these Laws, would also greatly contribute towards putting a Stop to the heinous Sin of Perjury†.

As

† The Method of administering an Oath in Scotland, is very awful.

The Evidence kneels and lays both Hands upon the Bible; opened, and repeats these Words after the Judge, “ I
 “ solemnly renounce all the Blessings con-
 “ tained in this Book, and I most solemnly
 “ pray, that all the Curses therein contain-
 “ ed, may fall upon my Head, if I do not
 “ declare the Truth; and by the Great
 “ God, and as I shall answer to that
 “ Great God at the Day of Judgment,

As this Proposal of considering the Kingdom as one Parish, may be thought liable to Objections, the Plan might be drawn upon a narrower Scale: let each County be considered as one Parish, and accordingly be subject to provide for its respective Poor.

ALL Parishes, though there be but one Farm in it, all extra-parochial Places, that now contrive to evade the Force of the

E 2 Laws,

“ I will declare the Truth, and nothing
“ but the Truth, so help me God.”

Previous to the Administration of the Oath, the Judge asks the Witness if he knows (and explains to him) the Nature of an Oath. After he is sworn, the first Question asked is, whether he knows the Plaintiff and Defendant, and whether he bears any Malice or ill Will to either. Then, secondly, whether he has any good Deed or Promise of good Deed, for bearing Evidence in that Cause?

Laws, concerning Settlements, should be laid to this County Rate, according to the real Rent at which the Farm and Houses are let. All Goods and Stock in Trade, all personal Estates should be assessed to the Rate at 5*l.* a Year, for every Hundred Pound.

A DUE Regard to the first of these Proposals concerning Public Houses would greatly reduce the Number of dependant Poor, by obliging them, without any Acts of Violence, by an honest Industry, to make a decent Provision for themselves and Families. Was the second, relating to Settlements, enacted into a Law, it would prevent a great deal of unnecessary Expence and Trouble; and a proper Attention to both of them would,
in

n a great Measure, though perhaps not entirely supersede the Necessity of Workhouses.

I SUBMITTED these Papers to the Perusal of a Gentleman, who is an able Lawyer and a most excellent Man. He favoured me with the following candid Objections. I will not attempt to refute them, tho' we differ in Opinion. " You are, " Sir, under a Mistake with Regard to the Expence attending the Litigations of Settlements, and the Number of Counsels retained on these Occasions." ———— There is seldom more than one, and, unless in very extraordinary Cases, the Costs are made less than you have set them at; and, Sir, considering how well that Branch of Law is now understood by the Justices, and what Accuracy there is in their De-

E 3 terminations,

terminations, with regard to it, I believe you will be inclined, on further Consideration, rather to wish that Matter to remain as it is, than by an Abrogation of old Laws, and Creation of new ones, to have a Door opened for more Litigations, only of a different Kind. —I do not wonder that a Man of Humanity and Benevolence is sometimes indignant at seeing so much Money spent in trifling Causes at the Sessions, but all Things are to be considered together, and if it is of any Consequence to have the Law, which is the Bulwark of our Liberties, well understood and upheld, it is also of Consequence, that some Encouragement should be given to the younger Members of that Profession, who have undertaken a Study in itself, most laborious

laborious and expensive, and which they never would pursue without some Prospect of Emolument, nor without some visible Means of Introduction into Business.—And Sessions-causes, Sir, (the only ones which can at first fall into their Hands) do at once answer this End, and, at the same Time, are a Means of extending an exact and strict Rule of Justice, even to the lowest Concerns of Life. —I am afraid if Lawyers were driven from the Sessions, and Causes were there to be determined merely by the Apprehension and Penetration of the Gentlemen on the Bench, however able and honest those Gentlemen are, (and certainly they are now in general most respectable) yet for the want of their having a steady Rule to walk

by, there would soon be greater Complaints arising from the Uncertainty of their Adjudications, than do now arise from the Expence of Trials.

PERHAPS I write too much like a Lawyer, but every Man is too apt to think he understands the Nature of his own Profession best, and if I know my own Heart,—in what I say, I am free from Self-Interest or Prejudice —Nothing is more dangerous in such a Country as this, than a discretionary and arbitrary Method of deciding Causes, and a too frequent Alteration of the Laws.

Two Thirds of the Poor who receive Collection, or beg from Door to Door, consist of the lazy, debauched and abandoned,
though

though none are real Objects of Charity, but the Aged and Infants, the Sick and Maimed.

BUT whatsoever is bestowed upon Beggars, Vagrants and Strollers, is ninety nine Times out of an Hundred, an Abuse of Charity, Therefore to prevent their imposing upon the Benevolent and Well-disposed, and to make them useful to Society, they should be forced to Labor. A Law should be made more strongly to enforce the apprehending of those People, who are a Nuisance to Society, and escape with Impunity, through the universal Dislike of Magistrates, Parish Officers, and People in general, to meddle with them†.

THE

† The 17 of George II. has reduced

THE Houses of Correction † in every County converted into Houses of Industry with a Sufficient Stock of raw Materials to find continual Work for these idle, though able-bodied People, provided they are superintended by honest and prudent Governors, would make them eminently useful to the Community.

ALL

the Laws relating to *Rogues and Vagabonds*, into one Act. But something more is necessary.

† They were originally founded for the Lodging of Poor, Way-faring People, the Correction of Vagabonds, Strumpets and idle Persons, and for finding them Work.—Account of founding Bridewell in London and its Environs.

ALL Persons found upon Examination of one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, to be of this Denomination, should by an Order of such Magistrate, be sent and admitted into one of these Workhouses.

THE Master or Governor should be directed to induce them by kind Usage and Rewards, to apply with Diligence to their Work, to behave with Decency and good Manners to all who live in this Asylum, and with particular Submission and Respect to their Superiors; many of them, by this mild Treatment, would taste and relish the Blessings which so excellent an Institution could not but abundantly afford them.

WHERE

WHERE these gentle Means have not the desired Effect, they should be deterred from Irregularities and Vice by Punishments, &c.

A SMALL Addition of Buildings to the Alms-houses in Market Towns, with proper Regularities, would be sufficient for the Accommodation of the Aged, who should not only be supplied with common Necessaries, but be treated with particular Lenity and Tendernefs, especially those, who in the former Part of their Lives have been remarkable for their Industry, Sobriety and good Morals,

By administering to these worthy and deserving People the Rewards to which an honest, laborious,

laborious, useful and virtuous Life have given them a just Claim, others of their own Sphere or Rank, at least, will undoubtedly be excited and encouraged to imitate their Example. And if it were possible, to secure the Government of these Poor-houses, founded for the Reception and Comfort of the Aged and Infirm, always in the Hands of good and well disposed Persons, they would be of great Benefit to such venerable People; but I am afraid that would not always be the Case, and therefore recommend the Institution even thus limited, not without Diffidence.

I ENTERTAIN a very high Opinion of the Philanthropy of the Gentlemen who think so favourably of Houses of Industry,

try, and are now preparing Bills in their respective Counties, to bring into the House of Commons, for the Sanction of Parliament, to enable the different Hundreds to unite in erecting such Buildings.

THEIR Motive, I am persuaded, is a very laudable one, and reflects great Honor upon them. They see with Concern, that the generality of Overseers and Church-wardens, treat the Poor with great Inhumanity and Cruelty. To deliver the Poor out of such Hands, they propose Houses of Industry for their Relief, and the Public Utility. But the Remedy is worse than the Disease. The Governors of Workhouses exercise much Tyranny over the unhappy Wretches committed to their Care.

The

The honest and industrious who principally deserve Protection and Assistance, in the Time of Necessity and Distress, will undergo a Thousand Difficulties rather than be deprived of Liberty, and be forced to herd with a set of Creatures who have lost all Sense of Virtue. Such an Association to Men of modest Merit, would be worse than Death. At first, however, the Public would seem to be a Gainer by this unnatural Scheme, for even the Negligent and Lazy, in the Infancy of the Establishment, will consider this kind of Confinement as a Reproach, and consequently apply to some Labor to keep themselves from starving; so that the Numbers who prefer this Vassalage and Imprisonment, will, for a Time, be inconsiderable. But by Degrees,

grees, and in a few Years, this popular Prejudice will wear off, the careless and idle Poor will be reconciled, and will enter these Walls without Reluctance; the Houses will be filled, and the Expence of providing for them will encrease, tho' little or no Part of the immense Funds will reach the industrious and deserving, who are the only real Poor.

IN many Places I am informed their Houses begin already to be thought less useful, and there is great Reason to fear they will at last be found a Means of Oppression to the Poor. —Places of Confinement are fit for Vagabonds. But surely the honest and industrious should, if possible, be assisted, and left at Large—there are but too many other Means already to undomesticate People, (if I may be

be allowed such an Expression) and to render them indifferent to the social Advantages and Comforts of Life.

INDUSTRY-HOUSES are detrimental to the Community upon a Variety of other Accounts. The Interest of the Money, raised for erecting them, together with the Salaries of the Governors, Clerks and other Servants, employed in the Management of the respective Houses, will be a heavy and perpetual Tax upon the Inhabitants of every Hundred, where those Establishments are founded. The Children brought up in them, from the Nature of their Situation, being accustomed to and trained up in carding, spinning and other light Employments, will become a puny,
F effeminate

effeminate Race, unfit for Agriculture, which, though the primary, and most national Concern, will be neglected.

THE Farmers in the Neighbourhood of these Houses, having experienced how unfit such Children are for rural Labours, refuse taking them at any Rate, into their Service. And in such Detestation are these Houses held by the lower Class of People, of both Sexes, that they cannot be prevailed upon to enter into any Services in the Hundreds where such Houses have been erected. Besides all this, several of the Schemes proposed, we may observe, seem to annihilate all Family Connexions, except that of one great Family under one Head ; the Men are proposed to be kept
apart,

apart, so likewise the Women, so that it will be a *Populus Virorum*, and a *Populus Mulierum*, which, no Doubt, would lessen the Number of Poor, both by hindering those who are already married from propagating their Kind, and discouraging all other poor Personst, or Persons of small or even of middling Fortunes, from marrying; for who would enter into a state of Wedlock, when he does not know but in the State of Human Affairs, he may fall into Poverty, and the Consequence of that Poverty will be a Divorce from his Wife and Children, so as that they are to have no future Intercourse and Communicatien. This, indeed, with the Help of the late Marriage

F 2

† Dr. Burn's History of the Poor Laws, p. 230, 2.

riage Act, may cooperate to reduce the Number of People, in a reasonable Time, perhaps one Third; and so, by Degrees, more and more. Let us see from Sir ----- Mildmay's Police of France, how this Scheme has answered in that Country.

IN 1640, when the Ordinances of France prescribed no Method for the Maintenance of the Poor, but that they should be nourished and entertained by the Cities, Towns and Villages of which they were Natives and Inhabitants; the Number of strolling Beggars without Settlement, Maintenance or Lodging, about the Streets of Paris, amounted to no less than † 40,000. The deplorable State
of

† According to a Calculation made

of so many unhappy Wretches excited some Persons of Eminence to hold frequent Assemblies for the Purpose of finding out a Remedy to so great an Evil. In Consequence of these Deliberations, an Edict was obtained in the Year 1656, for a general Workhouse or Hospital, to take in the whole Number of Poor under one Establishment, to be supported by one common Fund, according to their Ages, Sexes, Abilities, or Infirmities. All Beggars, whether in Sickness or in Health, of both Sex-

F 3

es,

by an accurate Writer, about ten Years since, the Number of strolling Beggars in the City of London, where there are few or no Parishes without a Workhouse, amounted to 20,000,

es, were to be confined in one general Hospital, and employed in such Works and Manufactures as should be suitable to their Abilities. Persons of the first Distinction were appointed to superintend the Police, and Conduct of the Poor, the King declaring himself to be the Protector of this royal Foundation, and granting several Houses, particularly the *Bicestre* and *Salpetriere*, with Scites of Ground, and all to be comprised under the common Appellation of the *General Hospital*; the Profits of several other Charities were assigned over for the Maintenance of them. All future Legacies to the Poor, were deemed as given to this Hospital. Estates and Merchandizes, confiscated by Law, were appropriated to its Use, &c.

THE

THE Poor themselves are also, by their Skill and Industry, to be instrumental to their own Support. The Directors, therefore, are impowered to set up any Species of Manufactures, and to sell the Goods Manufactured within the Hospital, free from all Duties; and every Company of Trades, Arts and Mysteries, is obliged to send two of their Body to instruct the young Children. These Assistants or Instructors, having served six Years, and the Children having been taught ten Years, may go out of the Hospital, and exercise their respective Trades in any Part of Paris. The House has many other Advantages and Immunities. As soon as the *Bicestres* & *Salpetriere* were sufficiently repaired, Public Notice was given in all

the Churches at Paris, that on the 7th of May, 16-7, these Houses would be opened for the Reception of all Kind of Poor, who wanted either Relief or Employment, &c.

THE City began immediately to have a different Appearance from what it had before. Many of the Beggars left Paris, others betook themselves to some industrious Means of gaining their Subsistence; so that out of the great Number of 40,000, there was not more than 5000, who took Shelter in this Hospital.

'Tis from the Dread of being brought by the Exempts of the *Police* to this Hospital, that the Streets of Paris are free from
such

such Night Walkers, as impudently swarm in the Streets of London.

THE Magistrates, at the same Time, publickly forbidding the Poor to beg, and threatening that those should be compelled by Force into the Hospital, who were not Inhabitants of Paris, unless they departed immediately to the Places of their proper Settlements.

IN the *Bicestre* disorderly Youths are instructed and employed in fabricating Linen and Cloth, for their Apparel and the Use of the House. Here Vagabonds and sturdy Beggars, are confined to hard Labour, and, according to their Crimes, receive the Discipline and Correction they deserve. In the
La

La Pitié, between 13 and 1400 Boys are generally taught to read, write, knit and weave, and at a proper Age, are bound Apprentices, put out to Service, or returned to their Parents. The Hospital *des Enfants trouvés*, or *Foundling Hospital*, takes in all Children that are offered, as soon as the House is informed whether they are the exposed of Parents unknown, or the Children of poor Parents, who desire to relinquish them to be nursed under the Care and Direction of the Hospital, till they are arrived at the age of five or six Years; when the Boys are placed in the Suburbs of *St. Antoine*, and the Girls at the *Salpetriere*, to be maintained, as before mentioned, at the Expence of the general Hospital, though now and then the Parents,

Parents, whose Circumstances are mended, reclaim and have them restored. The Court called *Notre Dame de Pitié*, belonging to the *Salpetriere*, receives all the poor Parish Girls of Paris, recommended as observed above, and the Female Foundlings, as already mentioned.

THEY are taught their Prayers and Catechism, and to read and write as well as knitting, plain Work or Embroidery, or to weave Linen and Cloth. But though about 400 in Number, through some Misconduct, they are never without the Itch. Idle Beggars, Pilferers, and loose disorderly Prostitutes, are admitted into another Part of this House, from whence, after having atoned by hard Labour

Labour for their Offence, they are discharged, being first marked on the Shoulder with a hot Iron, or sent out of the Kingdom to people their Colonies. Here is also a *Maison de Force*, or strong Prison, for such as by their Crimes deserve Confinements for Life, and an Infirmary, &c.

THE Building where the People are employed for furnishing all these separate Houses with Butcher's Meat, Beer, Bread, &c. is called the *Scipion*: each Person is allowed rather more than a Pound of Bread a Day, and in intermediate ones a proportionable Quantity of Peas or Beans.

THE Number of Persons is about 12868, and the Quantity

tity of Bread a Day about
16887 Pounds.

AFTERWARDS, in the Year
1662, the like Eftablifhments
were enjoined in all the great
Cities and Towns throughout
the Kingdom, wherein all the
Poor that were Natives or had
lived for the Space of one Year
in thofe Diftricts, (where we
may obferve, by the Way, that
the Settlement in France, is juft
as it was in England, before the
Statutes of Charles the Second)
were to be confined and pre-
vented from wandering into o-
ther Parts.

AND this feems, he fays, at
prefent, to be the general Syf-
tem in France, for the Mainte-
nance of their Poor, concern-
ing which, as he proceeds,
I have

I have been more particular in making my Enquiries, upon being informed, that several Treatises have lately being published in London, recommending such a general Method of maintaining our Poor, as preferable to the Provisions which our ancient Laws had established by parochial Assessments. Whereas, at the same Time, many Representations, Projects, and Memorials have lately been offered to the French Ministry, proposing on the other Hand, that their Poor might be maintained, as in England, by parochial Assessments. And there is a general Complaint of the Increase of Vagrants, and the Multiplicity of Poor unprovided for, notwithstanding those Establishments. So that I cannot but observe, that the Police of
every

every Country is best regulated when the Execution of it is divided into separate and distinct Departments†.

For besides the Difficulty of directing and governing so large an Institution, and the preventing it from being converted into a private Job ; we must consider the fatal Objection to such a Plan, arises from the Numbers to be contained therein, being unlimited, whilst there can be only a limited Revenue to support them. And this Accounts for the Swarm of Beggars which infest the Streets of Paris, notwithstanding the rigorous Methods of enforcing their Laws ;

† Police of France, p. 19, 21, 62, 104.

Laws; for Hospitals can hold only a certain Number.

BUT the Health of the Poor is a Consideration of much greater Weight than their Maintenance.

THE unhappy People, however, who are huddled together in these Houses of Industry, can enjoy but little Health. For where Numbers are crowded in narrow and filthy Places of Confinement, they must from the Ranciness of the circumambient Air, be always subject to Fevers of the putrid and most dangerous Kind, and not unfrequently be carried off by contagious not to say pestilential Distempers.

THOUGH

THOUGH the Use of Ventilators, with other Methods of Cleanliness, that may be devised, will prove of some Benefit, yet, as excellent Dr. Hales observes, in his Treatise upon that Subject, “ The Consideration of the great Quantity of
 “ rancid Vapors, that incessantly exhales from human Bodies,
 “ especially where there is a
 “ Multitude confined in a small
 “ Compass, fully evinces the
 “ Insufficiency of any Attempts
 “ to make the Air wholesome,
 “ by only a few Hours Ventilation in every twenty four
 “ Hours.

“ THE Vapors which arise from Human Live-bodies, are extremely corruptible; hence it is, that the
 “ Air of Prisons often produ-

G

ces

“ ces mortal Distempers, and
 “ doubtless, where the Air is
 “ very rancid, on Account of
 “ great Numbers of Persons
 “ confined together, it must
 “ needs tend to make them
 “ sickly,

“ THERE is so great a Quan-
 “ tity of Vapors carried off by
 “ Respiration, or breathing,
 “ that I found by Experiments,
 “ that more than a Pound
 “ Weight of Moisture goes off
 “ by the Breath in twenty-four
 “ Hours, and that somewhat
 “ less than two Gallons of Air,
 “ being breathed to and fro, for
 “ two Minutes and a Half, was
 “ furcharged with Vapors, that
 “ I could not possibly breath it
 “ any longer. *See Statical*
 “ *Essays*, V. II. p. 323, 6.

“ AND

“ AND, it is further to be
 “ considered, that a close con-
 “ fined Air, in which there
 “ are many Persons, is filled
 “ not only with the Vapors a-
 “ rising from their Breath, but
 “ also with what perspires off
 “ their Bodies ; which Respi-
 “ ration and Perspiration, both
 “ together, are equal to the
 “ Quantity of half the Meat
 “ and Drink which we take in
 “ daily, which is estimated to
 “ be about thirty-nine Ounces
 “ in England, and is much
 “ greater in hot Climates; and
 “ if the Quantity of Vapors;
 “ which arise from one Man,
 “ in 24 Hours, is 39 Ounces,
 “ then in an hundred Men,
 “ forty-three Pounds, and in
 “ five hundred Men, to one
 “ Thousand two Hundred and
 “ fifteen Pounds Weight. Not

“ that the Air, in the most
 “ capacious Ship, can possibly
 “ contain all this Quantity of
 “ Vapours at once, nor could
 “ any living Creature breathe
 “ therein, if it were so furcharged
 “ with them: but yet, this Esti-
 “ mate shews, how very great
 “ the Stench of such an Air
 “ must necessarily be, which
 “ not only retards Respiration,
 “ but also Perspiration, which
 “ is very prejudicial†”.

Dr. HOADLY, in his ingeni-
 ous *Lectures on Respiration*, ob-
 serves that “ the Air itself has
 “ so great a Share in the Acti-
 “ on of Respiration, and is so
 “ necessary likewise to the
 “ Health and Vigor of the Bo-
 “ dy, that no remarkable Alte-
 “ ration can be in it without
 “ our being affected by it.
 “ Confe-

† P. 42, 5.

“ Consequently, when the Air
 “ we breathe is loaded with Va-
 “ pours, which either render
 “ it too warm, or destroy its
 “ Elasticity, or both, it be-
 “ comes unfit for Respiration,
 “ and interferes with the
 “ Action of breathing.”——

And he further observes,
 “ that unless the Chyle, which
 “ is mixed with the Blood, be
 “ brought to the Lungs, in
 “ proper Quantities, and en-
 “ dowed with proper Qualities,
 “ unless the Discharges through
 “ the Sides of the Vesicles of
 “ the Lungs be regularly and
 “ duly performed ; unless a
 “ proper Quantity of Air-par-
 “ ticles be absorbed, to supply
 “ the active Principles, so ne-
 “ cessary to the Warmth of
 “ the Blood, and the Cohesion
 “ of its Parts, it must by De-
 “ grees grow less and less fit

“ for the Purposes of Life, so
 “ that by Degrees, the Blood
 “ will soon be impaired and
 “ broken, that when it most
 “ wants the Assistance of the
 “ Lungs, it will be brought
 “ thither, when it is only fit
 “ to choak up and clog the Ve-
 “ sicles, and Capillary Arte-
 “ ries, so as to prevent the re-
 “ ceiving the Service it could
 “ receive in passing through
 “ the Lungs.—Hence it is
 “ no Wonder, when we breathe
 “ an Air thus loaded with Va-
 “ pours, it should be apt to
 “ cause, what are called Gaol
 “ Distempers, which Inconve-
 “ nience might in a great Mea-
 “ sure be prevented, if such
 “ close Places were ventilated
 “ with fresh Air, for want of
 “ which, many unhappy Per-
 “ sons are not only deprived of
 “ Liberty

“ Liberty in Gaols, but too
“ often even of Life also†”.

“ THE driving into a Work-
“ house, People who can be
“ maintained in their own
“ Houses as conveniently, or
“ more conveniently to the
“ Public, with as little or less
“ Expence, is an Act of wan-
“ ton Cruelty. The Laws of
“ England make a Man's House
“ his Castle; and the Prospect
“ of holding this in old Age
“ is one of the greatest Spurs
“ to Industry and Temperance
“ in Youth. Were I a Law-
“ giver, therefore, I would

enact

† See also Dr. Aikins's Thoughts upon
Hospitals.

“ enact, that the flagrantly
“ idle or debauched should,
“ in old Age, be maintained
“ in a Workhouse, and others
“ in their own Houses†”.

WITH regard to Children,
the wisest Men of all Ages and
Countries, have ever been of O-
pinion, that their Happiness
cannot be more effectually pro-
moted than by fixing their At-
tention, and keeping them em-
ployed as soon as they are ca-
pable of doing any Thing.
And they are endowed with this
Capacity much sooner than we

seem

‡ Mr. Comber's Free and Candid Cor-
respondence,

seem to imagine. The Dutch Children, who begin to work at four Years of Age, make those Toys, which our Children, of more advanced Years, break. If Children are induced by the Hopes of Reward to be diligent and industrious, if they are deterred by the Fear of Punishment from being idle; if they are inured to some Kind of Labor in their early Youth, they will not depart from this Way to Happiness, as they grow and advance in Years, but take a Pleasure in Labor, in which there is Profit, that they may be enabled to make a decent Provision for themselves, and be useful Members to Society.

BUT

BUT they might receive still greater Advantages from this Plan, which I would hope is eminently calculated to reform and felicitate the lower Class of People. They might be taught the Precepts and Doctrines of Christianity, which furnish us with the clearest Instructions as to what we are to practise and avoid, in order to be happy in this and another World.

CONSIDERING how Charity Schools have hitherto been conducted in general, the Objections that they are Nurseries for Idleness, is not entirely without Foundation.

BUT

BUT upon the Plan here proposed, this Objection will be obviated and removed.

FOR let the Children be taught to work as soon as they are capable of learning the Alphabet and of getting the Church Catechism by Heart, and while they are initiated in a plain, sensible and decent Manner, in the easiest Branches of their Duty to God, their fellow Creatures and themselves, let them be trained up from their earliest Years, to a Habit of Industry, and to earn their daily Bread, which they may do by the Time they arrive at fix

or

or seven Years of Age; thus accustomed and habituated, not to say naturalized to Labor and Fatigue, they will, in Time, contract an Aversion to Idleness, which is the Source of most Inconveniencies and Wants. And as, by this laudable Exertion of their Faculties, both of Body and Mind, they will answer one of the great Ends for which they are sent into the World, they will always enjoy great Degrees of Peace and Happiness. Neither is it in the power of Words to describe the Advantages derivable to them, to their Parents, and the Public, from Institutions so properly adapted for instructing them in the Knowledge,

ledge, as well as the Practice of their Duty.

THAT such a Scheme is practicable, Experience proves to Demonstration.

A PERSON, whose Name I would not mention, about 7 Years ago, gave an industrious, well-disposed Woman, 2 Shillings a Week for teaching 20 poor Children to get the Church Catechism by Heart, to read, and to do whatever work their infant Years admitted of. This little Institution more than answered his Expectations. They made all the Progress that could reasonably be hoped for in the Improvement of their Understandings. Their good Behavior gave great Pleasure to the principal Inhabitants, and with
 Regard

Regard to Work, several of them, besides finishing their respective Tasks, set them by their Mistresses, for the more immediate Benefit of their Parents, got Money enough to buy some little Necessaries, such as a Hat or Handkerchief for themselves. And, which is still a farther Recommendation to such an Establishment, they were as fond of Work as the generality of Children are of Play. None of these Children earned less than 2 Pence, though some earned 3 or 4 Pence a Day. To see the Minds of these little Innocents, formed to the Love of Industry and Virtue; to see them busy and industrious in handling the Rock and twirling the Spindle, for the Formation of the Thread is a most pleasing Sight.

“ AND

——" AND many yet adhere
 " To th' antient Distaff at
 the Bosom fix'd,
 " Casting the whirling Spindle
 as they walk ;
 " At Home, or in the Sheep-
 fold, or the Mart,
 " Alike the Work proceeds.
 This Method still
 " Norvicum favors, and th'
 Icenian Towns†".

THE Talents of such a Mis-
 tress need not be great, nor the
 Directions necessary for her
 Conduct many. She should be
 good-natured, well-disposed,
 able to read the Bible with some
 Degree of Facility and Correct-
 ness, and should know some-
 thing of Needle-work and Spin-
 ning,

† These Lines are taken from the Fleece,
 a most excellent Poem, written by the late
 ingenious Mr. Dyer.

ning : she should be directed to use a short Form of Prayer every Morning and Afternoon, as soon as the Children are all got to School. Two Hours should be spent every Forenoon and Afternoon, in teaching them to read ; and they should be employed the same Number of Hours at Work. They should also every Day, indispensably, be made to repeat in a clear and distinct Manner the Church Catechism. This should also be done before they are dismissed each Part of the Day.

WHEN Boys are 8 or 9 Years old, if their Parents can neither employ, nor put them out to Service, they should be placed under the Care of a Master, who should not only continue to instruct them in reading and
the

the Catechism, but also to teach them to weed, hoe, dig, and do all other Sorts of Labor, of which they are capable. To teach the Children of the Poor to write and cast Accounts is, in my humble Opinion, a gross Abuse of Charity.

As Men, as Christians and Well-wishers to the Prosperity of our Country, it is our Interest and Duty to lay before them a clear View of the Religion of Nature and Christianity. Just Notions of the former will teach them what is required of them to be useful Members of Society; and a due Sense of the Importance of the Precepts and Doctrines of the latter, will influence and induce them to act upon all Occasions, with a View to his Favor, who is present to
us,

us, at all Times and in all Places. By these Means we shall make them Good Subjects, and secure their Happiness both here and hereafter. By giving them such an Education, we shall increase the Quantity of Labour, and reduce the Price of it. And the Children of Gentlemen of small Fortunes, of the Clergy and many other Persons in a genteel Way of Life, for whom it is not in the Power of their Parents to provide in any other Manner, than by giving them a little School Learning, will be sure of Employment in Compting Houses, in the Navy, or in a great Variety of other Departments, from which they are now excluded, through a wrong and ill-judged Method of training up the Children of the Poor, who are greatly wanted
in

in the humbler, but still very useful Stations of Life, such as those of Servants, Day-Labourers, &c. By Servants, I do not mean *Livery* Servants, of whom we have an incredible Number, to the great detriment of the State. From the Nature of their Service, they are brought up in a lazy, indolent and expensive Manner: many of them are insolent and vicious; and, whenever they marry and settle, 'tis commonly by keeping an Alehouse, Tavern or an Inn that they pick up a Livelihood; so that from the Cradle to the Grave, they are in general intolerable Nuisances to the Community.

BUT to return from this Digression to the Case of poor Children.

MANTUA-MAKERS, Milliners, &c. are as necessary in adorning the Persons of the Fair Sex, as
Taylors,

Tailors, Barbers, &c. &c. are for furnishing and accommodating ours with Cloaths; but why Girls, brought up in Charity Schools, should be put to those Trades I cannot conceive. Nor, in my humble Opinion, should any Girls, for good Reasons, too obvious to be mentioned, be apprenticed to those Businesſes, but ſuch as are lame, deformed, or of a weak Habit of Body. Some Regard ſhould be paid to the ſame Obſervation in placing Boys with Tailors, Barbers, &c. Nurseries for the Education of poor Children, conducted upon the Plan here laid down, would be productive of many happy Conſequences to the Public. I hope the principal People of every Pariſh in *Great Britain* will pay all due Regard to it.

“ THE Plan for bringing up
 “ poor Children at the Found-
 “ ling

“ ling Hospital, is excellently cal-
 “ culated for preventing the fa-
 “ tal Consequences of that Idle-
 “ ness, Beggary and Stealing,
 “ in which such poor Found-
 “ lings are generally bred up,
 “ and for the better enabling
 “ them, by an early and effec-
 “ tual Care of their Education,
 “ to become useful Members of
 “ the Common Wealth, by
 “ qualifying them to supply the
 “ Government with useful
 “ Hands on many Occasions,
 “ by making them good and
 “ useful Servants. From 3
 “ Years old to 6, they are taught
 “ to read and learn the Cate-
 “ chism, and, at proper Inter-
 “ vals, employed, in such a
 “ Manner, as may contribute
 “ to their Health, and induce
 “ a Habit of Industry, Hardi-
 “ ness and Labour; and from
 “ that Time their Work is to
 “ be such bodily Labour as is
 most

“ most suitable to their Age
 “ and Strength, and is most
 “ likely to fit them for Agricul-
 “ ture or Sea-service, such as
 “ digging, plowing, hedging,
 “ cleaving Wood, and carrying
 “ Burthens. Many of them are
 “ employed in Gardens belong-
 “ ing to the Hospital, where,
 “ by their Labour, they supply
 “ the House with Vegetables,
 “ and being instructed in Gar-
 “ dening, are kept in Readiness
 “ for such Persons as may be
 “ inclined to take them into
 “ their Service.

“ FROM 6 Years of Age, the
 “ Girls are employed in com-
 “ mon Needle-work, knitting
 “ and spinning; and in the
 “ Kitchen, Laundry and House-
 “ hold-work, in Order to make
 “ them useful Servants for such
 “ proper Persons as may apply
 “ for them”.

BUT

BUT to make them still more eminently useful, all Masters and Mistresses of Families should be prevailed upon to hear these poor Children, as soon as they are admitted into their Service, read their Lessons, and repeat the Church Catechism, at least every Sunday. If they were to do so every Day, I am sure they would find their Account in it. If they could still farther be prevailed upon to read Prayers every Night in their Families, and make it their constant Study to set their Children and Servants a good Example, our Situation would be very much to be envied.

Dr. HARTLEY in his Observations on Man, says, “ I believe
 “ it may be laid down, as a
 “ certain Fact, that no Master
 or

“ or Mistress of a Family can
 “ have a true Concern for Re-
 “ ligion, or be a Child of God,
 “ who does not take Care to
 “ worship God by Family
 “ Prayer†”.

WHETHER our numerous
 Charity Schools, and even
 Grammar Schools, many of
 which, in Country Towns and
 Parishes, are become Sinecures,
 though well endowed, would
 not be of much greater Benefit
 to the Publick, if they were re-
 gulated upon some such Plan
 as this, merits the Consideration
 of the Legislature.

A GENTLEMAN, distinguished
 for his superior Abilities, both
 natural and acquired, with
 whom

whom I have had frequent Conversations upon this Subject, gives it as his Opinion, that the Morals of the People of this Kingdom have been in general, worse *since*, than they were *before* the *Reformation*. It is, upon the other Hand believed, that we have encreased in Knowledge since that Period, and that the Attainments of Mankind in Virtue and Morality, bear a Proportion to their Degrees of Knowledge. But though the Truth of this Persuasion, so generally received, be granted, yet the Gentleman's Observations will not be, perhaps, invalidated.

For if the Masters of our Grammar Schools teach their Scholars the learned Languages
with

with some Degree of Success, they acquire sufficient Reputation in the Discharge of their Duty, tho' they pay little or no Regard to Branches of Literature infinitely more essential to the Well-being of the young Gentlemen committed to their Care, such as explaining to them the Nature and Design of Christianity, &c. Writing Masters in Market Towns and Country Villages, are thought to be well qualified for the Instruction of Children intended for rural Employments, Trade and Commerce, provided they can teach them to write a good Hand, and to understand common Arithmetic, though they have no Sense of Religion, and consequently take no Pains to instill just Notions of it into the Minds
of

of their Scholars. The Children of Day-labourers and low Mechanics, are brought up in the grossest Ignorance. No Wonder, therefore, that Licentiousness and Immorality prevail. But vary the Method of Education. Let the rising Generation be taught, upon Christian Principles, to be good, rather than learned, and they will be found to excel the Papists, as well in Purity of Manners, as in the Reasonableness of their religious Sentiments.

LA RELIGION est toujours le meilleur Garant que l'on puisse avoir des Mœurs des Hommes†.

THE

† Grandeur, &c. des Romains, Ch. 10, par Montesquieu.

THE Case of the Sick and Diseased, requires the Attention of much greater Abilities both natural and acquired, than I pretend to. However, I will hazard a few Reflections upon the Subject.

ONE would imagine upon seeing the Conduct of some Overseers, when their Poor are out of Order, or dangerously ill, that they are void of all the Feelings of Humanity. Tho' it be allowed that to preserve Life, or restore the Health of an unfortunate distressed Fellow-creature is certainly one of the greatest Charities that can be, I have frequently seen the industrious Parent, through the Cruelty of callous Overseers, cut off for want of the Assistance of the Faculty. The Consequence

sequence has been, that the unhappy Widow and her miserable Children, have been forced to apply to the Parish for Relief; which, in the Course of 7 or 8 Years, amounted to a very large Sum of Money, whereas a few Shillings might have saved the Father's Life, and consequently kept them independent.

IT is the Interest of every Parish to furnish the Poor with necessary medicinal Helps. For so long as their Health is preserved, Contributions for their Assistance will be very trifling, provided proper Methods are taken to keep them constantly employed.

THE many magnificent and
superb Buildings erected and
endowed

endowed for the Benefit of the Sick and Diseased in the Metropolis and other Parts of this Kingdom, exhibit such lasting Monuments of our Liberality and Munificence, as not to admit of a Doubt, but that Hospitals will, by Degrees, be erected in all the Counties; which, at present, have no Infirmaries for the Reception of their unhappy Poor, who want that great Blessing Health.

BUT, even when these Institutions become general, something more should be done towards recovering the Health of the Poor.

ANY Surgeon and Apothecary, distinguished for his Tenderness and Humanity, as well as Skill and Ability in his Profession,

feſſion, who lives in or near the Centre of a Hundred, will, for various Reaſons, gladly accept of 40/. a Year for giving his Advice, and making up neceſſary Medicines for the Poor of his reſpective Hundred. The Drugs, &c. provided they are bought at the beſt Hand, under the Direction of proper Judges, will rarely amount to above 20 or 30/. a Year more.

ALL unmarried Perſons; who have neither Children nor aged Parents to aſſiſt and ſupport; after their Recovery, ſhould be employed by the Guardians of the Poor, 'till, with the Profits ariſing from their Labour, they repay their benevolent Providers, the Money they ſo kindly expended for their Support and Cure. This Propoſal is by no Means unreaſonable. The honeſt and induſtrious will thank-
I fully

fully comply with it. And that Law is most equitable, and of great Benefit to Society; which obliges the lazy and abandoned to perform, though by Compulsion, what the industrious and valuable Part of Mankind do by Choice.

I KNOW a poor, Day-laborer; who some Years since, during a dangerous Fit of Illness, was supplied with Money, from Time to Time, to support himself and Family, till it pleased God to restore his Health. In a few Months the honest Man, though he had a Wife and nine Children, with great Gratitude, repaid the Parish.

THE City of *Lyons* in *France*, where something like this last Proposal is practised with Success, is much admired for the
Wisdom

Wisdom and Excellency of its Police; which has an amazing Influence upon the Conduct of the lower Class of People, whose Morals adorn, enrich, and render powerful that respectable Seat of Virtue and good Manners. But to return from this Digression. The Conduct of the Governors, Masters and Mistresses, &c. employed in assisting and regulating the Behavior of the Poor, should be superintended by Gentlemen of Fortune, Integrity and Honour.

THE Governors of our Hospitals in London are Persons of the first Rank. “ The
 “ Governors of the Workhouses
 “ and Hospitals in Holland,
 “ are the most considerable
 “ Persons in the different Ci-
 I 2 “ ties

“ ties or Towns. They often
 “ visit and spend a Day or two
 “ in examining the Conduct
 “ and Management of the
 “ Houses under their Care.
 “ This Office is *honourable*. And
 “ whosoever is named to it by
 “ the Public Magistrates, never
 “ declines it; because he would
 “ be looked upon as a selfish
 “ Person, and not well affected
 “ to the Common-wealth: be-
 “ sides, after such a Refusal, he
 “ could never pretend to be a
 “ Candidate for any Public
 “ Employment. For none are
 “ intrusted with considerable
 “ Offices, who have not begun
 “ with this, and shewed their
 “ Capacity, Integrity and good
 “ Management.”

How much this prudent
 Conduct deserves our Imitation,
 merits the Consideration of the
 Gentlemen,

Gentlemen, Clergy, Freeholders, Burgeſſes, &c.

IT is much to be lamented that Inſtitutions of this Kind, though they promiſe in Theory great Benefits to Society, have been defeated through the Careleſſneſs and Inattention of the Directors, or through the want of Abilities and Integrity in the Perſons employed in the Execution. For which Reaſon it is greatly to be wiſhed that Perſons of public Spirit, as well as Property, could be prevailed upon by way of a ſtanding Committee, to ſuperintend all Public Inſtitutions, by whom the Pretenſions of thoſe claiming Admittance, ſhould be examined, Offenders tried, Monies iſſued, Proviſions and Neceſſaries examined, and all the

important Business of the different Departments transacted.

I HAVE been at a great deal of Pains and some Expence in procuring the State of more than 30 different Workhouses, E. G. Those of Leeds, Manchester, Liverpool, Bristol, Exeter, &c. &c. The Result of my Enquiry is this. The Poor of some of them that are superintended by Gentlemen, Merchants and Tradesmen of Reputation and Honour, partly through the Humanity, Benevolence and Prudence of those Gentlemen, &c. but principally on Account of the Dread and Dislike they have of being sent to a Work-house, are rendered more useful. And, in general, the Expence of maintaining them since, has been less than what it was before these Work-houses were erect-

ed. In a few Places the Poor Rates are much the same as they were 20 or 30 Years ago, when this Method of providing for the Poor first took Place. But as the Number of Poor in those Manufacturing Towns is increased, though that is very far from being the Case in large Towns, from whence many Mechanics have migrated to other Places, in our own Kingdom, where they live cheaper, as well as to foreign Parts. The Rates, in all Probability, had been higher, had it not been for those Migrations and Institutions, in some of which, through the Providence and Benevolence of the Directors, is observable the pleasing Circumstance, *that the Poor live better.* In Many Workhouses, however, there are very great Irregularities. The whole Bu-

Business of providing for the Poor is made an infamous† Job: they are treated with Negligence and Severity. Common Necessaries are scanty, and of a bad, unwholesome Quality. The Aged and Infirm lead a most miserable Life, and those who are capable of Labour, are treated like Vagrants in Houses of Correction. And the Children contract Rickets and other loathsome Complaints; which stop their Growth, render them unfit

† There is in general an iniquitous Correspondence carried on between the Superintendants, Governors, Clerks, &c. and the various Tradesmen employed to supply these Houses with Provisions, Cloathing, &c. How melancholy a Consideration is it that *The Charitable Corporation Office*, incorporated in 1708 for the Relief of the industrious Poor, by assisting them with small Sums, lent upon Pledges at legal Interest——should have a Fund of 600,000*l.* villainously embezzled by the Cashiers, Warehouse-keepers, &c. who fled to France, London and its Environs,

fit for Labour, and make them wretched all their Lives. Instead of being trained up in the Knowledge and Sense of their Duty, they are here brought up in Ignorance, and, from their Cradles, habituated to many Vices. But I will give the Reader a more striking, and, perhaps, a more just Description of these Houses, from a very sensible Writer.

“ HUMANITY, says this Gentleman, is shocked at the
 “ Idea of what is called *Work-*
 “ *houses*, Places where Hun-
 “ dreds of Persons of both Sex-
 “ es, and all Ages, are pro-
 “ miscuously huddled together,
 “ lying 3 or 4 in a Bed, and
 “ fed, in such a Manner, as that
 “ the Person who farms them,
 “ at the lowest Price, per Head,
 “ among several Candidates,
 “ may get as much as possible
 by

“ by the Bargain. The De-
 “ struction of young Infants,
 “ in these Places, is incredible.
 “ Nor are they regretted by
 “ their merciless Parish Guar-
 “ dians. Whatever Orphans
 “ or natural Children are cast
 “ upon their Care, are easily got
 “ rid of, in the ordinary Care
 “ of parish Nursing, without a-
 “ ny Noise, since no one is par-
 “ ticularly interested in the
 “ Welfare of friendless Found-
 “ lings. When the precarious
 “ Nature of Infant Life, even
 “ under the most judicious
 “ Care, is considered, we can
 “ easily imagine what must be-
 “ come of those tender Beings,
 “ when deprived of maternal
 “ Affection, and committed to
 “ the unfeeling Management
 “ of Women, only solicitous
 “ to save themselves from all
 “ the

“ the Trouble they can, con-
 “ fined to the fœtid Steams of
 “ most filthy Accumulation of
 “ poor and dirty People, where
 “ the very Air to such Chil-
 “ dren conveys a poisonous De-
 “ gree of Malignity. To think
 “ of this is painful ; but to
 “ step into such Receptacles of
 “ Poverty to see the Fact, and,
 “ if possible, unseen, to be
 “ Witnesses to the general im-
 “ moral Behavior and Depra-
 “ vity of these unhappy Peo-
 “ ple, regarded by their Go-
 “ vernor, only in a pecuniary
 “ View, &c. †”.

BUT it is evident, to a De-
 monstration, that Workhouses
 would be very rarely wanted,
 provided

† Vid. Observations on the Number
 and Misery of the Poor, &c.

provided Alehouses; which are Seminaries of Idleness and Drunkenness, and of most of the Irregularities and Distresses of the Poor, were stopped up. In short, let Alehouses; which are the peculiar Source of the Distresses and Wretchedness of the Poor, and the Burden they bring on the Rich, &c. be regulated upon this Plan: let proper Care also be taken to keep the Poor employed, and the Expence of providing for them will be very trifling.

THE End of all Government is the Happiness of the People, and that Happiness is most effectually promoted by securing their Morals. But to produce a Habit of Industry in the lower Class of People, at the same Time that it enriches the Community, of which they
are

are Members, has a more powerful Tendency, than all other natural Means, to secure and refine their Morals.

THE Italians have a Proverb; which expresses my Sentiments upon this interesting *Occasion with great Power and Conciseness* :——Chi fatica e tentato du un Demonio, Chi sta in Otio du † mille. And what was said of the Romans of old is applicable to the People of all other States and Countries, Populo Romano longe melius committi Negotium quam otium ‡.

Industry

† The Person at Work is tempted but by one Dæmon; but the Idle Man is tempted, solicited and harrassed by a Thousand.

‡ Employment is of greater Benefit to the Romans than a State of Inactivity.

Industry not only keeps the common People out of Idleness, but of Course from the Commission of Vice; and, while they are making a comfortable Provision for themselves and Families, they become highly respectable in another Light. For their Labour may be justly considered as the principal Source of the Riches and Power, the Glory, and Happiness of their Country.

THE Founders* of all civil, as well as religious Institutions, have given all possible Encouragement

* The Kings of Ægypt dug the Lake of Mæris and raised the Pyramids, more with the Intention of keeping the Tempers of their Subjects within due Bounds, than with the Hopes of perpetuating to Posterity those amazing Monuments of their Art and Power.

agement to Industry, by Immunities, and a great Variety of Bounties and Rewards. They have also enacted a great Number of Laws to enforce the Practice of it upon the Idle, the Indolent and Refractory. And the Almighty has given to those Laws, by the Publication of his Will, the Sanction of a future State of Rewards and Punishments.

THEREFORE as Industry is thus eminently conducive to the Happiness of Mankind, the great End of all Government, we should carefully trace out the most effectual Methods of promoting it.

AFTER making the nicest Disquisitions, it will be found that Agriculture, Manufactures, Trade and Commerce, will always afford Employment

ployment to the Bulk of Mankind, whom those of higher Stations in Life should encourage to be industrious; or they neglect the Happiness of the most useful Body of People in all Societies, as well as the Interest and Welfare of the Community to which they belong. But these laudable Endeavors should be exerted agreeably to the Nature and Relation of Things, otherwise an Inclination to promote these noble Ends, and even large Sums of Money, expended with these elevated Views, will be very ineffectual to the obtaining them.

THE Demands for the Manufactures of *Great Britain*, would be much greater than they are, were it not for the Laws; which restrain the Liberty
of

of Artisans in Cities and market Towns. 'Tis owing to these Laws, enacted, when the Principles of Trade and Policy were but ill understood, that Journeymen of all Trades, in London and most Corporation Towns, enter into Combinations, raise the Price of Labour, and consequently the Value of our Manufactures, so as to enable our Rivals in Trade to undersell us in foreign Markets.— This Affair merits the Consideration of a *British* Parliament— Birmingham and a few other Places are happily exempt from these Restrictions, and consequently in a very flourishing State.

“ I wish you, says an ingenious and learned Correspondent, to be more diffuse and

K

more

“ more severe on Corporation-
 “ laws and Exclusive-charters :
 “ ——— They are the Bane of
 “ Trade ; though at their first
 “ Institution they were the
 “ Support of it. In Fact, they
 “ are now— as they at first were
 “ —like the Bounty on Ex-
 “ ported-corn, and many Draw-
 “ backs :—proper in the In-
 “ fancy—but pernicious in the
 “ Maturity of those Manufac-
 “ tures to which they are an-
 “ nexed.”

THE Privileges of incorpo-
 rated Towns must certainly be
 founded on bad Policy. For
 how few of them have made
 any, the least Improvement in our
 Manufactures, whilst the free
 and flourishing Towns of Man-
 chester, Birmingham, Wolver-
 hampton, and Sheffield, with
 many Places in Yorkshire
 and

and several other Counties, have in a Century or two risen from small Villages to equal most of our Cities in Size, and to surpass them in Riches and Opulence? Nothing can contribute so much to the Increase of Manufactures and Trade as Liberty to all Persons; who have Judgment and Circumstances to follow such Branches of Trade as are most suitable to their Inclinations and Abilities. But in Corporations none are suffered to settle, exclusive of those; who have acquired their Freedom by serving their Apprenticeships or advancing large Sums of Money. These Restrictions limit both capital Tradesmen and manufacturing Hands to much the same Number at all Times, and give an amazing Check to the Industry and Emulation, so conspicuous in

free Towns. The Hardship is also great to many Individuals; who are bound Apprentices, when so young as not to be capable of judging what Trade suits their Genius and Disposition. They are obliged to serve out, with Dislike, their Time, though, when once free, they will never more follow the Trades to which they have been brought up. Then, as it will be too late in Life to enter into another seven Years Bondage; they frequently give themselves up to Idleness and Debauchery, become a Parish-charge, end their Days in a Workhouse, or perhaps in a Manner still more shocking to Humanity. Exclusive Charters, granted to Cities and Corporations, are absolute Prohibitions and Hindrances to Ingenuity
and

and Art. All Places should be free and open to the Industrious and skilful of all Trades and Arts, that are conducive to the well Being of Society ; as it is in the learned World with Regard to the whole Circle of Arts and Sciences†.

PRUDENT and benevolent Persons, of very moderate Fortunes, may, without injuring their Circumstances, contribute very much towards enabling the
 Poor,

† See Cantillon, P. 17, and the Case of the Five Millions, sold by Mr. Millan, opposite the Admiralty Office, which renders any farther Publication upon the Subject of Corporation Laws, exclusive Charters, &c. unnecessary.

Poor, to live in a comfortable Manner. The first and most essential Measure to be taken, in their Favour, is to keep them constantly employed. By this Means, where the Families are not very numerous, they will, in general, derive a comfortable Subsistence.

WHAT a Pleasure must it afford every humane and benevolent Person of Fortune, constantly to employ a great Number of old and decrepid, as well as able-bodied, strong-working People upon the just Supposition, that Time is the poor Man's Stock in Trade, and that to reward him for the good Use of it is the greatest of Charities! It will make but a small Deduction out of the Income of a considerable Estate to encourage the
working

working Poor, whom the generous Owner employs, to be industrious, good and useful,—to give each of them Winter-keeping for a Cow; which would make an incredible Addition to their domestic Comfort and Happiness.

WHERE a Gentleman; who has acquired a large Fortune, in a genteel Profession, and has, in a great Measure, retired from Business to enjoy the Fruits of his former Care and Application, considers it as a Duty incumbent upon him to improve and adorn his Estate, principally for the sake of furnishing many poor People, who must otherwise be upon the Parish, with Work to enable them to supply their Families with the Necessaries, not to say the Conveniencies

veniencies of Life ; can he offer to God a more acceptable Tribute of Gratitude and Praise? The Gentleman who takes Pains in improving his own Estate and recommending the same Conduct to the poor Farmers of his Neighbourhood, and furnishes little Farmers, with the Means of Improvement, by introducing, after-repeated Tryals, large Quantities of artificial Grass Seeds, paying ready Money, and letting his Tenants and Neighbours have what Quantities they want to sow, indulging them with a few Months Credit, and treating them with the Carriage ; but yet granting this Favor to none, excepting those, who engage to sow and lay down their Ground with them, every first Crop, after a Fallow, or Turnips,

nips, does a most essential Service to his Neighbourhood.

To lend any of the labouring Poor 5 or 10 Shillings, for a few Weeks, to enable them to purchase a little Malt or Wheat, at the best Hand, provided they engage to keep from Alehouses, &c. &c. cannot but be of great Benefit to them.

ANOTHER Method of assisting them, would be to lay in a large Stock of the Necessaries of Life, when they are to be bought at the lowest Prices, and to supply the Poor with them, in Times of Scarcity, without advancing those Prices. A worthy Clergyman in Suffolk lays in a very large Stock of Coals, when they are cheapest. His Wife orders a
very

very considerable Quantity of Bacon, to be salted down, at the proper Season. He sets apart 2 Hours, on two several Days in the Week, for supplying the numerous Poor of his Parish with Coals, and Bacon, by statutable Measures and Weights,——at Prime-Cost, (Charges included) and for *ready Money*. This saves the poor People full 3*d.*—sometimes 4*d.* in a Shilling—and moreover forces them to some Industry in Order to procure the necessary Purchase-Money. A double Advantage this! and most worthy of Imitation!

WHEN Provisions are extravagantly dear, the principal Inhabitants of a Town or Parish may do very great Services to the Poor, by purchasing the
Necessaries

Necessaries of Life in large Quantities, and retailing those Necessaries to them at or under prime Cost. I remember the raising considerable Sums of Money, by a general Subscription in several Parishes, if I mistake not, in the Years 1758, 1763 and 1767. With this Money large Quantities of Wheat were bought and ground into Meal; which was distributed, unbolted, among the Poor, at half prime Cost, in Weights proportioned to the Number of their Families; which proved an incredible Relief to them.

“ AMONG all the Advanta-
 “ ges arising to a Gentleman,
 “ from the Employments of a
 “ Country Life, the Principal
 “ is that of doing good, of
 “ which

“ which no one, in a private
 “ Station, has greater Oppor-
 “ tunities. As I have had some
 “ Taste and Relish of these
 “ Pleasures, I am desirous to
 “ propagate the Sense of them,
 “ as universally as I can, and
 “ it would add greatly to my
 “ own Satisfaction to have Par-
 “ takers with me in the En-
 “ joyment of it†”.

Dr. BURN has annexed to his
 History of the Poor Laws and
 Observations on the said Sta-
 tutes, an Account of the sever-
 al Schemes published for re-
 forming the Poor Laws. Be-
 fore I proceed any farther in my
 own Plan, I will lay before the
 Public a Proposal, transmitted
 to me upon this Subject by a ju-
 dicious and worthy Friend.

A PRO-

† *Liste* on Husbandry.



A

P R O P O S A L

For the better R E L I E F of the
P O O R.

TH E Extravagance of the Poor, in former Years of Plenty, and the present Dearness of Provisions, make an Application to the Parish-Officers, for their Relief, absolutely unavoidable; which has swollen the Poor-Rates in some Parishes to such a Degree, that the Owners or Occupiers of Land, pay
to

to the Poor double the present Land-Tax: (a) A Load which Agriculture cannot support, and which will certainly encrease the Price of the Necessaries of Life.

A SCHEME, therefore, that will incourage Industry and Frugality, and exonerate the Land from such a Burden, will, it is hoped, merit Attention, and be considered with Candour.

THE Poor Laws, when enacted, were necessary and well intended; but now, when Shame ceases to attend those that

(a) The Poor Rates last Year (1766) for Estates in the Parish of T——n of, the yearly Value of 120*l.* amounted to 30*l.* 8*s.* and swell this Year to much more.

that apply to the Publick for Relief, they are become the Parents of a Life of Idleness and Dissipation. No Person will labour, if he can help it; and few poor Persons will strive to lay up Money, when they think they have no Occasion for doing it, and that the Parish is obliged to maintain them. And if a Person can get sufficient in four Days to support himself for seven Days, he will keep Holiday the other three: that is, he will live in Riot and Debauchery.—It must be admitted, this is not the Case with all. Numbers lay up a small Matter weekly to support themselves against Sickness or Accidents, and enter into Societies called Clubs, to which they pay Six-pence every Month, and when sick they receive (if confined

fin'd to their Bed) fix Shillings per Week ; if able to walk about three Shillings per Week; and if incapacitated to Labour, by old Age or otherwise, two Shillings and Sixpence per Week for Life. As this Payment and Receipt is found by Calculation and Experience, to be ten to seven in favour of the Society, a considerable Sum must soon accumulate ; which produces very bad Consequences; as such Sums are vested in the Hands, and at the Disposal, of the laborious and indigent Poor, who often apply it in support of themselves and Families, when they enter into any † Confederacy to raise their Wages,

† Vid. Definitions and Axioms relative to Charity, by the ingenious Mr. Cooper.

Wages, or into any other illegal Combination ; which not only injures Trade and Agriculture, but occasions Riot and a Contempt of Law and all Order.

To remedy these Evils, to promote and encourage Industry, to exonerate the Land from the Poor Rate, or, at least, to lessen the Poor Rates greatly ; to provide for the necessitous Poor in a Manner much better than they are at present (without that odious Idea they generally entertain of a Deprivation of Liberty in a Work-house, and without laying a Burden on any of them, but what the prudent Part of the Poor voluntarily lay on themselves)—— It is proposed, that Application be made to obtain an Act of
L Parliament,

Parliament, by which it may be enacted, That upon Easter Monday in the Year 1768 (*b*) or in any subsequent Year, the Constables and Inhabitants of any or every Parish in the County shall assemble together at the Church of such Parish, (*Notice for that Purpose being affixed upon the Door of such Church, at least two Sunday Mornings before such Meeting,*) and if two Parts out of three of the Persons so assembled shall agree to carry this Act into Execution; that then and not otherwise, the
major

(*b*) If it is thought the Parliament will not pass an Act to leave it in the Power of Individuals, whether they will carry it into Execution or not; And if, in that Case, it should be objected that the Scheme would too much affect the Liberty of the Poor, it is answered, that no Punishment is inflicted under this Scheme on any poor Person for not complying with it, but depriving them of the Benefit of it.

major Part of them, so and then assembled upon Easter Monday in every subsequent Year, shall make a List of four or more, substantial Householders, living, in or near such Parish, who, each of them, have an Estate of Lands and personal Estates, clear of all Reprisals, of the Value of one Thousand Pounds; and if there should not be so many to be found having such Qualification, then they shall insert the Names of so many of the most sufficient and the most substantial Householders of such Parish, not so qualified; and the Constable shall return such List unto two Justices of the Peace, at their then next special Sessions; and the Justices, from such List, shall nominate two of them, to be called Trustees for the Poor of such

such Parish, for the Year ensuing, and for the Purposes of this Act. And the major Part of them, so assembled, shall elect one or more Person or Persons, properly qualified, to act as Surgeon or Surgeons for the said Parish, with a certain settled Salary for the Purposes of this Act. And if there shall not be any Person, to offer to serve the Office of a Surgeon, or be elected into that Office ; or if those appointed should neglect their Duty ; or if such Surgeon, so elected, should die, or be removed, the Trustees, for the Time being, shall appoint a Surgeon, when necessary, and pay him such Sum for his Trouble and Medicines, as shall be thought reasonable by the major Part of the Inhabitants assembled in Pursuance
of

of Notice for that Purpose given, in the parish Church, the Sunday preceding such Meeting. That every Man above twenty one Years of Age (except parish Apprentices) and under fifty one Years, shall be obliged to pay to the said Trustees of the respective Parish, in which he resides, or has resided, the monthly Sum of Six-pence, on the first Saturday in every four Weeks, or lunar Month ; and every Woman of the same Age, the monthly Sum of Four-pence. If he or she shall neglect or refuse to pay such Sums, as aforesaid, for the Space of one Month, as they become due, that, then, the Trustees shall have a Power to levy treble such Sums, with Costs, by Distresses ; and if no Goods, the Person, so neglecting or refusing, to have
no

no Benefit of the said Act.

IF any Person shall neglect to pay, as aforesaid, and shall afterwards shew a sufficient Cause, to be ascertained on Oath, for such Neglect to any one Justice of the Peace, and shall pay down to the Trustees such Sums as he would have paid, had he not made such Default, he or she shall be admitted to all the Benefit of the said Act, provided he or she shall be at such Time found in Limbs, and in perfect Health.

EVERY Person paying as aforesaid, and receiving as herein aftermentioned, shall not be deemed to receive Relief from the Parish, nor be obliged to wear any Badge, Letter or Mark whatsoever. Every indigent Man paying as above, shall be intitled

intituled to receive of the said Trustees of such parish, when he is not able to work, on account of any accute Disease or Accident, provided it be not occasioned by any Riot, Rout, or any illegal or criminal Act, during the time he shall be confined in Bed, for any Time not exceeding four Months, the weekly Sum of three Shillings, and after such *four* Months, the weekly Sum of two Shillings and Six-pence. Every Woman, paying as above, when married, and also when, and, as often as she shall be delivered of a Child, shall be entitled to the Sum of twenty-one Shillings ; and every indigent Woman, when she shall not be able to work ; or follow her Employment, by Reason of any Disease or Accident as aforesaid,

the weekly Sum of two Shillings and Six-pence. Every indigent Man, and if he has a Wife, having above the Number of two Children, under the Age of eight Years, or impotent, as aforesaid, for each and every Child, the weekly Sum of one Shilling. And every indigent Person aforesaid, when incapable of working, through old Age, or incurable Infirmities, the weekly Sum of two Shillings and Six-pence for Life.

THE Trustees for the Time being shall be impowered to subscribe any Sum to any county, or other general or charitable Hospital, to enable them to recommend Patients to such Hospitals, as the Parishioners, at any Meeting to be held for that Purpose, shall agree to and direct.

direct. If any Person shall presume to feign Sicknefs or Lameness, or shall be guilty of any Fraud in procuring Assistance from and under this Act, and shall be convicted thereof, by the Oath of one Witness, before any two Justices of the Peace, he or she shall be fined and pay six Shillings, over and above the Money he or she so fraudulently received, and all Expences attending the Conviction for the first Offence; and, for the second Offence, shall be excluded from any Benefit of, or from this Act.

No Person shall receive any Payment or Benefit of, or from, and under this Act, that departs from one Parish to another, unless he or she have a Testimonial under the Hand of the
the

Constable and Church Wardens of the Parish, where he or she last served, and a Certificate, setting forth the particular Accident or Disease, that rendered him or her not able to work, under the Hand of the Constable and Church-wardens of the Parish where he or she shall then reside.

EVERY indigent Person aforesaid, shall give immediate Notice, when taken ill, to the Trustees, who shall order the Surgeon to visit them as soon as possible: and the Surgeon shall make a Return to the Trustees of the Case and Condition of such Person so visited; and the Pay shall commence to be due from the Surgeon's first Attendance and Return: and the Surgeon shall make a Return weekly

weekly of the Sick and Infirm under his Care, to the said Trustees ; which Returns shall be taken as proper Vouchers for the several Payments made by the Trustees in Pursuance thereof.

ANY one Justice of the Peace, on Application, may summon Parties, settle Disputes, and order what Pay the Parties shall receive, and when such Pay shall commence or cease, with an Appeal to the Quarter Sessions.

THE Trustees shall produce and lodge with the Clerk of the Parish a just and true Account, fairly written, on Easter Monday in every Year, to remain in the Hands of the said Clerk, during one whole Week, to be inspected
by

by any Person who shall desire it, without Fee ; and shall deliver in and verify the same on Oath, as the Church-wardens and Overseers of the Poor are directed to do their Accounts by the 17th of *George II.*

SURPLUSAGE to be applied in purchasing Corn when cheap, to be laid up in parish Granaries, or vested in the Government, or on Turnpike, or land Securities, against Times of Distress and Dearth ; and till so applied or vested, if the Surplusage amount to upwards of twenty Pounds, it shall be deposited in a parish Chest, under three Locks, the Minister of the Parish to keep one, the Church-wardens another, and the Trustees the third.

DEFI-

DEFICIENCIES to be made good by and out of the present Poor Rate, or a Rate on Lands agreeable to it.

TRUSTEES; who shall refuse to act, or shall be negligent in their Office, shall forfeit not exceeding 40*l.* nor less than 5*l.*

Dr. PRICE's Reasoning is very favourable to this Proposal.

THE lower Part of Mankind, says that judicious Writer, are Objects of particular Compassion, when rendered incapable, by Accident, Sickness, or Age, of earning their Subsistence. This has given Rise to many very useful Societies among them, for granting Relief to one another, out of the little Funds supplied by weekly Contributions. A Society of this Kind, framed on the following Plan, would, probably, thrive, and might

might, on some Accounts be more useful than the Institutions in *Holland*, mentioned in *P.* 118.

LET the Society, at its first Establishment, consist of 100 Persons, all between 30 and 40, and whose mean Age may therefore be reckoned 36 ; and let it be supposed to be always kept up to this Number, by the Admission of new Members, between the Ages of 30 and 40, as old Members die off. Let the Contribution of each Member be four Pence per Week, making from the whole Body, an annual Contribution of 85*l.* 17*s.* Let it be further supposed that 7 of them will fall every Year into Disorders, that shall incapacitate them for 7 Weeks. 30*l.* 12*s.* of the annual Contribution will be just sufficient

sufficient to enable the Society to grant to each of these 12s. per Week during their Illnesses; and the remaining 55 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. per Annum laid up and carefully improved at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent, will increase to a Capital that shall be sufficient, according to the Chances of Life in Tables III. IV. and V. to enable the Society to pay every Member, after attaining to 67 Years of Age, or upon entering on his 68th Year, an Annuity, beginning with 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. and increasing at the Rate of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. every Year for 7 Years, till at the Age of 75, it comes to be a standing Annuity of 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. for the Remainder of Life.

WERE such a Society to make its Contribution 7 Pence per Week, an Allowance of 15 Shillings might be made, on the
THE

same Suppositions, to every Member during Sicknefs; besides the Payment of an Annuity, beginning with 5*l.* when a Member entered a 64th Year, and increafing for 15 Years, till at 79, it became fixed for the Remainder of Life at 20*l.*†.

BUT it is in the Power of the Legislature to contribute greatly to the Relief and well Being of the Poor by a Variety of other Means.

THE most powerful Kingdoms, in the World, have been enriched and aggrandized, either by the Conquest of other States, by Agriculture, or by Manufactures and Trade. The Histories of all Ages, and of the most flourishing States, as well as the
Suf-

† See Dr. Price's *Observations on Reversionary Payments*, P. 120, 121.

Suffrages of the ablest Politicians and wisest Men, confirm the Truth of this Observation.

BUT the first of these Means of enriching a Country, is highly unjustifiable. For the Conqueror, who extends and enlarges his Dominions by the Force of Arms, grossly infringes and invades the Rights and Liberties of Mankind, and is *frequently* guilty of Bloodshed and Devastation.

OF the other Sources of Wealth, and more natural Methods of adding to the Riches and Power of any Country, Agriculture, for various Reasons, claims the first Place in our Thoughts.

MONTESQUIEU, indeed, says that
 “ the Culture of the Soil is the
 M greatest

“ greatest of all Manufactures,
 “ and the truest Source of *
 “ Riches.”

By Means of Agriculture we are furnished with Food, and with most of the Materials, of which our Garments are fabricated, for our Support and Preservation; and by exporting the Superfluities, by which I mean *what remains of those Commodities after our own Necessities are supplied*, we bring back the Productions of other Countries, for the greater Convenience and Comfort of our Lives.

WHATSOEVER, therefore, has a Tendency, to improve our Knowledge and Skill in Agriculture, must enable us, not
 only

L' Esprit des Loix, T. II. L XXI. C.
 18.

only to raise more Corn, but to bring up greater Numbers of Cattle, and consequently to make Provisions cheaper.

As the Capital is, in all Countries, the central Focus of Consumption and Luxury, and consequently the Source of many Evils, such as dearth of Provisions, Depopulation, &c. the Administration, that should correct these Effects, by encouraging Cultivation and Improvements, would do a signal Service to the State.

BUT the Introduction of a cheaper and better Manure than any now in Use, will be an incredible Improvement of Agriculture.

IN the Environs of Cities and
great Towns, Dung, Cinder-
ashes, the Dirt of the Streets,
M 2 &c.

&c. are bought of Scavengers, by Gardeners and Farmers, tho' they cannot be supplied with the large Quantities for which they have Occasion, even at extravagant Prices.

THE Manure, in Places at some Distance from great Towns, is common Dung, Oil-cakes, Lime, &c.

AN Acre of Ground cannot be well covered with less than 15 Cart Loads of Farm-yard Dung; which is Eighteen Pence a Load. The carrying and spreading must enhance the Value to another Shilling a Load; so that a good Coat of Dung, on an Acre of Ground, cannot stand the Farmer in less than 1*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* But a sufficient Quantity

Quantity of it is not to be purchased, at any Rate. He therefore supplies the Deficiency with Oyl-cakes.

FOREIGN Oil-cakes; which were sold, 20 Years ago, at 35 and 40s. per Ton, sell now at 4*l.* and 4 Guineas, being chargeable with a Duty of 25 *per Cent ad Valorem*, besides Custom-house and Port-charges.

IF the Duty was taken off, the Price of them and our own Oil-cakes would be reduced.

BUT, as Matters now stand, half a Ton of Oil-cakes, *less* will not do, for an Acre of Ground, allowing 5s. for Carriage, breaking and sowing, will amount to 47s.

FOR these Reasons the Quantity of Corn sown and raised is, by no Means, so considerable as it might be, if Farmers were supplied with Manure, in greater Plenty and upon easier Terms.

† I HAVE heard one of the best Farmers in the Kingdom declare, some Time since, that he should sow twice the Quantity of Wheat, &c. that he does at present sow, if Manure, of the same Quality with common Dung, could be bought and spread at half the Price of Dung.

THE

† If the Farmers would petition the Members of their respective Counties, humbly requesting them to use their Endeavours to have the Act; which lays a Duty upon foreign Oil-cakes, repealed, they would undoubtedly, be relieved. Tis extremely ill-judged to lay a Duty upon Oil-cake or any other Manure. A Douceur to encourage the Importation of them, would be much more reasonable.

THE saline Particles of Manure are the principal Causes of Vegetation.

THE common Experience of Husband-men, who manure their Lands with Sea-sand, Sea-ooze, *Cragg*, &c. confirms this Opinion*.

THE Efficacy of Sea-sand is very great. In some Counties, upon the western Shore, the Farmers spread from 100 to 150 Horse-loads of it upon an Acre of Ground.

AND

* “ The burning of the Surface of Clay-ground, about two Inches thick, ploughed up, when dry and thrown into Heaps, with Faggots of Furze or Ling under them”, is recommended by Mr. *Hit. P.* 13.

CAMDEN, speaking of *Cornwall*, says—
“ But they make the County exceedingly
“ rich, with a sort of Sea-weed, called *Ore-*

AND they are obliged, by a particular Covenant, in their Leases, to lay 100 Horse-loads upon every Acre of Ground, when broken after a Fallow, and take but 3 Crops after such a Dref-

“ wood, and a fat Kind of Sea-sand”.

In P. 2. of the Additions to *The History of Cornwall*, published in *Bishop Gibson's* Edition of *Cambden's Britannia*, in 1695, we read “ They also have the Freedom to “ take Sand out of the Sea, and carry it “ through the whole Country, to manure “ their Ground withal. This is a grant, “ by *Richard Duke of Cornwall*, which is “ confirmed An. 45 Hen. III. by that “ King; whereupon in the next Reign, “ upon an Inquisition, we find a Complaint, “ that *Saltaſh* had lately taken yearly 12s. “ for each Barge that had carried Sand up “ the Tamar; whereas Nothing ought to “ have been demanded.

“ By this it appears; that ever since Hen- “ ry III. at least, this has been the chief “ Way of improving their Grounds: and “ they still continue the same Method; car- “ rying it ten Miles up into the Country,

a Dressing, till they give it a Fallow, &c. again. This is the Practice, in many Places, very near the Sea But at the Distance of 15 or 10 Miles from it, which is, I believe, the greatest

“ and for a great Part of the Way too up-
 “ on Horses’ Backs. One might be more
 “ particular here upon the several Sorts of
 “ Sand, and of their Manner of using them;
 “ but an ingenious * Discourse upon this
 “ Subject, has superseded that Labor;
 “ however, what Mr. Ray has communi-
 “ cated concerning the Virtue of the Sand,
 “ may perhaps be not unacceptable. He
 “ is of Opinion that it depends chiefly up-
 “ on the Salt mixt with it; which is so
 “ copious, that in many Places, Salt is
 “ boiled out of a Lixivium made of the Sea-
 “ sand; and the Reason why Sand, after
 “ it hath lain long in the Wind, proves less
 “ useful and enriching, is, because the
 “ Dews and Rain; which fall upon it,
 “ sweep away a good Part of its Salt.

* Philosph. Transact. N. 113, P. 293.

greatest that Sea-sand is carried to, they use from 30 to 50 Loads an Acre.

THE fertilizing Quality of Sea-ooze is amazingly great, being a Compost of uliginous and unctuous Particles, strongly impregnated with Salts. This valuable Discovery has not fallen under

In speaking of the Improvements in Devonshire, the same Writer says, " They overspread their Lands with a certain Sand from the Sea, which renders it very fruitful, and as it were impregnates the Glebe; and therefore in Places more remote from the Shore, it is bought dear".

The Dearness of Sand (mentioned by Mr. Cambden) by which they improve their Ground, has, I suppose, in some Places, put them under a Necessity of using Marle, Lime, and the Turf of the Ground skinned off, and burnt to Ashes; a Method of Agriculture very agreeable to Virgil's Rule.

Sæpe tiam steriles, &c. 1 Georg.

For a more particular Account of the Mode of Farming in Devonshire, see the late Professor Bradley's Philosophical Works of Nature.

under my Observation, 'till very lately, and the Utility of it is but little known.

IN the Hundred of † Wirrel, between the Dee and Mersey the Farmers lay on a very thick Coat of Sea-ooze, the Virtue of which lasts for 20 Years.

THEIR Mode of doing it is very singular. The whole Neighbourhood unites and assists, one Farmer, one Year, another the following, and so on by Rotation, annually improving the Lands of the Hundred as they come in Course.

THERE are two Farmers of my Acquaintance, who, by the Use of it have this last Year raised Crops of Corn and Turneps greatly beyond any Thing of the Kind

† Cambden writes it Wire-hill.

Kind done in the eastern Part of
this Kingdom before†.

“ CRAGG, or Shell, says Mr.
“ Kirby, so useful, in improv-
“ ing Land, in Suffolk, was
“ first discovered at Levering-
“ ton in that County, by Ed-
“ mund Edwards, in 1718,
“ tho’ it appears from Books
“ of Agriculture, that the like
“ Manure has been long since
“ used in the West of England.
“ Edwards, being covering a
“ Field with Muck out of a
“ Yard, and wanting a Load
“ or two to finish, carried some
“ of the Soil, that lay near his
Muck,

† In Northumberland a rich Compost
is used of the *Alga marina*, or Sea-weed,
and Lime mixed together. In some Parts
of Scotland, especially on the eastern Side
of Berwickshire, where fine Crops of Wheat
are raised, they use no Manure but Sea-
weed; which abounds on that Coast.

“ Muck, though it looked to
 “ be no better than Sand ; but
 “ observing the Crop to be
 “ best, where he laid that,
 “ he was, from thence, incou-
 “ raged to carry more of it next
 “ Year ; and the Success he
 “ had, encouraged others to do
 “ the like. This useful Soil
 “ has been found in great Plen-
 “ ty, upon the sides of Vales,
 “ as may reasonably be suppo-
 “ sed to have been washed by
 “ the Sea, either at NOAH’S
 “ *Flood*, or by the Force of
 “ Tides, to some Places since
 “ forsaken by the Sea†.

IN the West of Cornwall,
 where Pilchards are caught and
 cured in such great Plenty,
 there

† Vid. Kirby’s History of Suffolk and
 its Antiquities.

there is a great deal of foul § Salt with which they dress their Lands. The Effects of it are wonderful, and are pointed out at large in *The Causes of the Dearness of Provisions, &c.*

BUT as there are two ‡ Writers of considerable Abilities ; who think that Salt is not endowed with any fertilizing Quality I will lay before the Reader Copies of several Letters that I have received, leaving him to decide in Favour of, or against the Question, as his own Judgment shall direct.

THE

§ By a late Act of Parliament ; which I have not seen, foul Salt, a Friend informs me, is no longer chargeable with a Duty : so that the Efficacy of Salt, as a Manure, will, in all probability, be soon more clearly ascertained by Experiments.

† Printed at Gloucester, and sold by Doddsley and Millan, P. 47, 50.

‡ Home on the Principles of Vegetation, and Count Gyllenburgh.

THE Substance, nay the very Words of those Correspondents are as follows :

Letter I.

SIR,

“ ONE Tun of Salt will do 3 Acres well. It cost 3*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* I sowed it out of a Seed-leap, by Hand, as Corn. I think it answers very well, but I have had Trial only of one Crop. It does best in dry Weather. I do not think it will answer upon wet Land. My Wheat, last Year, was sown upon flat Work, and the Salt sown after the Wheat was up. This Year the Wheat and Salt were both sown on the Land, and plowed in together and made into Ridgework, and at present is very promising.

February 21st, 1771”.

Letter

Letter II.

SIR,

“ THE Price I gave for foul Salt is 3*l.* 3*s.* 0*d.* per Ton. I tried it for Turneps, laid about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a Ton per Acre. Last Year I tried it for Wheat. The Wheat was sown above Furrow. I tried different Quantities for the Wheat but I cannot strongly recommend it, as to a second Crop, I have no Opinion of being but little Service to it.

March 18th, 1771”.

Letter III.

SIR,

“ As to Salt I only threw about one Bushel on about a Rood of Land, sown with Oats; which made it appear more vigorous

gorous in the Spring; but there was no perceptible Difference in the Corn at Harvest, or in the Hand since.

March 23d, 1771.

Letter IV.

SIR,

“ WITH REGARD to Salt, by way of Manure, a Hundred Weight, or two Bushels sown by Hand like Corn, is sufficient for an Acre of Ground. I have sown it both for Wheat and Barley and found it made a remarkable Difference in the Crop. I mean between that Part of the Ground; which was sown with it, and that, which was not. I am not certain whether its Virtue remains any longer than one Year. But I think it must be equal to Oil-cakes. The Charge

N

and

and Trouble attending it is much less than either of them or Dung : so that it may be repeated more frequently. I should advise it to be sown immediately before the Seed, and turned in with the Plow, or harrowed, pro Re nata.

Letter V.

“ IN this Parish the Farmers are obliged to lay on 100 Horse-loads of Sea-sand. You will please to observe, though the Tenant is obliged to lay on a 100 Loads ; yet those, who are near the Sand, carry frequently 200, and out of this Dressing they take frequently 3 Crops, Wheat, Barley and Oats, then lay down with Clover or other Grass: where the Ground is Furzy it is beat hacked and burnt. I apprehend
the

the Benefit the Land receives from this Manure is derived from the saline Particles, in which Sea-sand abounds. We use no Salt here for the Improvement of our Farms. But in the West of Cornwall, where Pilchards are caught and cured in great plenty, there is a great deal of foul Salt, with which they dress the Ground, and it answers to a Wonder.

My Correspondent, in that County, gives the following Account of their Method. Some sow it as we do Corn, 18 or 20 Winchester Bushels to an Acre : others mix it with Earth and Dung letting it ferment and frequently turning it, I do not find they are fond of it for their Wheat Crops. But the prevailing Method is to sow it with

N 2

thei

r

their Turneps or Barley. And that Dressing will produce a Crop or two very good in coarse, moory Heath-land. Their Land is there of a coarse gravelly Soil that will bear nothing but Heath, unless dressed: and with such Dressings as abovementioned, they frequently have 50 or 60 Winchester Bushels an Acre.

UPON my learning by your Letter, that you had been informed by a Liverpool Gentleman, that salt is not endowed with any fertilizing Quality, and reading Count Gyllingburg, lately translated by Mr. Miller, on the same Subject, I acquainted my worthy Friend from whom I had received the 5th Letter, with the Doubts that had been communicated to me
about

about it by a private Gentleman of great Experience, as well as by the learned Swedish Nobleman's Publication. I give you the Answer with which I was favoured from him on Wednesday last.

“ I HAVE not seen the Book
 “ you mention about Salt-dressing.
 “ But I think it would
 “ not change my Opinion, as
 “ I am certain scraul Salt is a
 “ fine Manure, whether proceeding
 “ from the Spirit in the
 “ Salt itself, or the Oil from
 “ the Fish, with some broken
 “ Pieces of Fish that were in it,
 “ I cannot say. But it may be
 “ overdone. It was a kind of
 “ sparry Soil, where I have
 “ known it used with Success.
 “ Sea-sand is also a good Dressing,
 “ in a clayey, stiff Soil,

“ as it opens and breaks its Co-
 “ hesions, and causes a Fer-
 “ mentation favourable to Ve-
 “ getation”.

I TRANSMITTED Copies of the foregoing Letters to a Gentleman to whom the Public is greatly indebted for his Observations upon many interesting Subjects, with the following Apology and Request.

IF my Opinion, as to the fertilizing Power of Salt, is wrong, I shall be very glad to see it refuted. For I would not, upon any Account, mislead any Person in an Affair of this Consequence. Upon the other Hand, if I am right, to have my Sentiments upon the Subject propagated, will be of great Benefit to the Publick. If you, Sir, either from your own Experience, or from the Trials of your Friends,

Friends, should make any Discoveries upon this interesting Question, I shall be very thankful to you for them.

HE favoured me with the following Remarks upon these Articles,

“ I AM greatly obliged to you
“ for the Trouble you have
“ taken in transcribing the Letters of your Friends respecting Salt as a Manure. They serve to corroborate the Opinion I had entertained of it. Salt, when joined to any Thing of an oleaginous Nature, forms a Kind of soapy Mucilage; which makes a very efficacious Manure. Letter 5th, agrees with this, in what it relates of its Virtue, when first used in curing Pilchards.

“ chards. So I conceive if it
“ be sown on Land that a-
“ bounds with any Thing of an
“ oily Nature, twill prove use-
“ ful, but will add little to dry
“ barren Lands, unless mixed
“ with something of an unctu-
“ ous Nature, as Dung, &c.

“ HOWEVER, I am of Opi-
“ nion, sufficient Tryals have
“ not yet been made to ascer-
“ tain any Thing certain about
“ it. All depends upon Ex-
“ periments, and when I am
“ fortunate enough to make
“ any Discovery respecting it,
“ I shall communicate it to
“ you with great Pleasure”.

BEFORE I quit this Subject,
I will transcribe a few Passages
from two sensible Writers.

“ To every Acre of Ground
 “ you should take two Bushels
 “ of very dry Bay-salt, and in
 “ such Manner as you sow your
 “ Wheat, you shall sow this
 “ Salt upon the Ground, then
 “ immediately after the sowing
 “ of the Salt, you shall sow
 “ your Wheat, which Wheat
 “ would be thus prepared be-
 “ fore you sow it: the Day be-
 “ fore you are to sow your
 “ Grain, you shall take Bay-
 “ salt and Water, and mixing
 “ them together, make a Brine
 “ so strong that it will bear an
 “ Egg, then put the Wheat
 “ you are to sow into that Brine,
 “ and let it steep therein till the
 “ next Day, then drain it as
 “ clean as may be from the
 “ Brine, and so sow it; har-
 “ row it, clot it, and weed it,
 “ as before declared, and no
 Doubt

“ Doubt you shall find a mar-
 “ velous Increase thereby : for
 “ this, I can assure you, from
 “ a most certain Knowledge,
 “ and a most worthy Relation,
 “ that a Gentleman buying
 “ some Store of Seed Wheat,
 “ and infort to bring it Home
 “ by Sea, by some casual Means
 “ some of the Sacks at the un-
 “ lading, fell into the Sea, and
 “ were much drencht in the
 “ Salt-water, whereat the Gen-
 “ tleman being grieved (as
 “ doubting some Hurt to come
 “ at the Seed) yet infort of
 “ Necessity to make use there-
 “ of, caused all the Wheat
 “ which was so wet to be sown
 “ by itself, in a particular
 “ Place, and upon the worst
 “ Ground that he had, as much
 “ despairing in the Increase
 “ thereof; and it is most infal-
 libly

“ libly true that of that wet
 “ Seed, he received at least five-
 “ fold more Profit than the
 “ other ; and thence it came
 “ this Experiment of Bryne and
 “ the sowing of Salt hath taken
 “ Place ; from which the pain-
 “ ful Husbandman hath found
 “ such infinite Increase to a-
 “ rise, that the Use thereof will
 “ never be laid down in this
 “ Kingdom, neither in the
 “ Thing itself, without good
 “ and strong Probability of
 “ much Increase and Strength
 “ for the bettering of all kind
 “ of arable Grounds: for there
 “ is nothing which killeth
 “ Weeds, Quicks, and other
 “ Offences of the Ground so
 “ much as Saltnefs ; for what
 “ makes your Pigeons Dung
 “ and Pullens Dung to be bet-
 “ ter for arable Grounds, than
 any

“ any other Manure whatever,
“ but by Reason of the Saltnefs
“ thereof, by which Saltnefs
“ also, you may judge the
“ Strength and Heat thereof.

“ Now again you shall un-
“ derstand, that as you thus
“ wet or steep your Wheat-
“ feed, so you may also steep
“ any other Seed, as Barley,
“ Oats, Beans, Pease, Lupins,
“ Fetches, and such like ; of
“ which, your Beans, Pease
“ and Lupins, you may steep
“ more than any of the rest,
“ and your Oats the least. As
“ touching Rye, it shall be
“ good not to steep it at all,
“ for it is a great Enemy to all
“ manner of Wet and * Moif-
“ ture.

To

* Markam's Farewell to Husbandry,
P. 21, 22 and 23 ; printed in 1620.

“ To shew an Acquaintance
 “ the Effects and Advantages
 “ of Salt, properly applied to
 “ Vegetables, I made the fol-
 “ lowing Experiment, in an
 “ extraordinary dry Summer,
 “ upon a bare Piece of Pasture-
 “ land, out of which the Cat-
 “ tle were all taken, for want
 “ of Grass; I marked 4 Places
 “ with Stakes, each of which I
 “ watered 9 Nights successive-
 “ ly, in the following Manner,
 “ the first with Spring-water
 “ alone to the Quantity of a
 “ Gallon; the Second with the
 “ same Quantity of Water, ad-
 “ ding an Ounce of common
 “ Salt; the 3d and 4th with
 “ the same Quantity, mixing
 “ the Water in the 3d Place
 “ with 2 Ounces of Salt; and
 “ that in the 4th with 3 Oun-
 “ ces,

“ ces, which produced the fol-
 “ lowing different Effects.

“ THE Grass in the 2d
 “ Place grew more, and of a
 “ darker Green than that in
 “ the first; in the 3d it only
 “ grew by Spots: for Part of
 “ it was killed, where the
 “ greatest Quantity of Water
 “ fell; and the Fourth was
 “ quite brown for a greater
 “ Compass than the 3d, by
 “ which it appeared that an
 “ Ounce of Salt in a Gallon of
 “ Water had a better Effect
 “ than the Water had alone;
 “ and that 3 Ounces of Salt,
 “ mixed with a Gallon of Wa-
 “ ter, was more than the Grass
 “ could immediately bear;
 “ but the 4th Place in the en-
 “ suing Spring, was the most
 “ of them all; which was ow-
 ing

“ ing to the Winter’s Moisture
 “ diluting the Salt. So the
 “ Salt must be of great Service
 “ to Land, how dry soever, as
 “ appeared by the common Salt
 “ and Water, used as above-
 “ mentioned. Fresh Earth is
 “ of no farther Service to Trees
 “ than by the Salts therein con-
 “ tained ; which it has at va-
 “ rious Times received from
 “ the Excrements of Cattle,
 “ long pasturing upon its Sur-
 “ face, the saline Particles of
 “ which, descending to the
 “ Roots of the Grass, render
 “ the Earth more fertile.

“ The Quantity of Land
 “ watered in each Place, was
 “ about 5 superficial Yards,
 “ that is the Nine Hundredth
 “ and 68th Part of an Acre*”.

GLAUBER,

* *Hitt* on Fruit Trees, P. 17, 20.

“ GLAUBER, among many o-
“ ther useful Experiments, on
“ Salts, relative to their vegeta-
“ ting Quality, found that no
“ Manure of the Kind had
“ such Power in Tillage, as Sea-
“ salt calcinated in a Lime mix-
“ ture.

His Prescription is this:

“ To every four Hundred
“ Weight of Lime flacked in
“ the Air, add one Hundred
“ Weight of common Salt:
“ Temper these together with
“ Urine to a stiff Mortar, which
“ make into small oblong Rolls,
“ and dried; when done, lay
“ a Layer of Wood, then a Lay-
“ er of these Rolls, and so on
“ till the Quantity is piled up,
“ which set Fire to, and let the
Whole

“ Whole burn out, taking
 “ Care, that no Rain or Wet
 “ get to the Lime in flacking,
 “ or these Mortar Rolls in burn-
 “ ing.

“ WHEN burnt, powder it
 “ fine ; and let it lay half a
 “ Year, often turning it, in a
 “ dry Place in the Air, that it
 “ may be contempered and a-
 “ nimated by the Air, or sown
 “ on the Land so long before
 “ the Seed be sown”.

“ THE Expence of it must
 “ differ, as the Ingredients dif-
 “ fer in Price.

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
“ BUT suppose 4 Hun-		
“ dred of Lime at	4	0
“ One ditto of Salt,	8	6
	<hr/>	
	12	6

O

“ THAT

“ THAT is 2*s.* 6*d.* per Hundred Weight, and 12*s.* 6*d.* per Acre.

“ THIS Expence bears no Proportion to the Advantage arising therefrom, when we consider its Utility in destroying every Worm, in preventing the Ground being loaded with Filth from the Dung-heap, Poison, and its fertilizing Property*.”

EITHER Salt, or this Manure of Glauber’s, would be of considerable Service also to large Portions of Land in Cheshire, Norfolk and other Counties, where Improvements have been made by the Use of Marle ; and yet, where the Crops, in many Places, are less than they were a few Years ago. The Reason of which is this—The Spirit and Efficacy of

* Vid. Peter’s Winter Riches, p. 162, 3.

of Marle will last about 20 Years, but not much longer; it now begins to wear out in many Parts, and no Land will bear a second Coat of this Manure, so well as it did the first, no good Prospect this for several Farms, unless some other cheap Substitute can be discovered*.

IF

* People who think that the Use of Marle, as a Manure is a modern Improvement, are under a great Mistake. We learn from Pliny that the Celtæ of Britain and of Gaul applied it to the Purposes of Agriculture. *Alia est Ratio, quam Britannia & Gallia invenere alendi eam ipsam quod Genus vocant Margam, &c. C. Plin. Natural Histr. Lib. VI. Cap. 6, 7, &c.* That the Use of it has been ever since continued in some Degree, in this Kingdom, we learn from our Histories, and Statutes. A Statute passed in the 9th of Hen. III. giving Liberty to sink Marle Pits—Every Man may sink a Marle Pit in his own Ground without paying a Tax to the King; this is a Proof of an earlier Attention and Knowledge in the Improvement of Land than is to be found in any other Country in the same Century. In Ed. IV. Cap. 4. We have this remarkable Account. Marle is

If our Forests, Chases, Wastes, Commons, &c. that lye uncultivated, and consequently are of little or no Benefit to the Government, or to the Community, were inclosed and leased out, in small Farms, and at a very moderate Rent, to honest and deserving, though poor Families, the Necessaries of Life would be
much

a kind of white Stone or Chalk, which Men in diverse Counties of this Realm cast upon Acres of Land to make it more plentiful. It is called Malen. The great Number of Pits, observable in many Counties, confirm this Truth, so well attested in History. Whoever would see this Subject more fully discussed and illustrated, will be highly entertained, if he has Recourse to the valuable History of Manchester, late published by the learned and ingenious Mr. Whitaker, P. 212, 13.

† It is almost impracticable to procure from the respective Offices, the necessary Information relating to the Revenue arising from the King's Chases, Forests, &c, after the Salaries of the Officers are deducted: either the Nobility, Gentry, &c. upon whom those Places are bestowed, have

much cheaper, and Population would be † increased.

WALTER MAPES; who was a judicious Writer in the 11th Century, has transmitted to Posterity a just Censure upon the Conduct of *William the Conqueror*; who destroyed so many Towns, Villages and Churches,

O 3

turning

it in Charge, not to disclose his Majesty's Rights; or they are afraid some Scheme may be set on Foot for rendering these vast Wastes of some Utility to the Publick. Application has been made, by some ingenious Friends of mine, to Gentlemen of their Acquaintance in Office: but they have ever been put off with Excuses tantamount to a Refusal.

Our Forests are in Number 69—some of them very extensive and fertile. Some make the Ground afforested, in New Forest in Hampshire, not less than 50 Miles in Circumference. Our Chaces are 13, our Parks above 700, our Commons, Hills and Mountains are without Number.

“ Soon may
“ Laughing Ceres reassume the Plain”.

turning the poor Inhabitants
 a Drift, and converting the
 Country, for more than 30 Miles
 in Circumference, into what is
 now called *New Forest*. “He
 “ took away much Land from
 “ God and Man, and converted
 “ it to the Use of wild Beasts
 “ and the Sport of his Dogs,
 “ by which he demolished 36
 “ Mother Churches, and drove
 “ away the poor Inhabitants†”.

TEMPLA adimit Divis, Fora
 Civibus, arva Colonis.

WE live in a more enlighten-
 ed Age, but yet not without
 many Remains of antient Bar-
 barism and Ferocity.

WILL not the Faith of Poste-
 rity be blended with some De-
 grees of Doubt, concerning the
 Improvements, of which we
 boast

† Vid. Cambden, P. 115.—Lord Lit-
 tleton's History, &c.

boast in the Arts and Sciences, when they read in Dr. Davenant; who wrote about 70 Years ago, that out of 40,000,000 of Acres of Land, at which he laid the whole Kingdom ; our Forests, Chaces, Heaths, Highways, Commons, and waste of Grounds still consisted of 16,000,000 of Acres ?

IF we suppose the Highways and Lands since inclosed, to make up half that Number of Acres; there still remain 8,000 000 of Acres, in a wild uncultivated State.

FREDERIC WILLIAM ; the second King of Prussia, formed a Project of this Kind, and had the Happiness to put it in Execution. His Country was a vast Desert. He laid out only

O 4

Twelve

Twelve Millions of Florins in cultivating the land, building Villages, and peopling them. He brought Families from *Sua-bia* and *Franconia*: thither he drew Emigrants from *Salts-burgh*; furnished all of them with travelling Expences and the Means of Subsistence. He formed a new State; he created a new Power. Europe has felt the Weight of it. Who would not profit from this Example? It would amazingly increase the Finances, the value of Lands, Circulation and Public Credit.

WHAT Frederic did in his European Provinces, the English have done in many Settlements in America. The Advantages resulting from them to Britain are very important*.

“ BUT

* *Essai sur la Circulation, &c.* par. M. Pinto. A MS. with the Perusal of which a Gentleman of Distinction favored me.

“ But it seems very strange
 “ to consider the peopling
 “ and Cultivation of our
 “ Colonies, as a national Con-
 “ cern, and at the same
 “ Time, to permit large Fo-
 “ rests, Commons and open
 “ Fields, in the Mother-coun-
 “ try, to remain in pretty
 “ much the same Condition,
 “ as when Agriculture, and
 “ Commerce were not half so
 “ well understood, or of half the
 “ Consequence they are at pre-
 “ sent, &c*”.

To divide the 8,000,000 of
 Acres which has been mention-
 ed, into small Farms, of 40 A-
 cres, would be of incredible
 Utility to the Public.

THEY

* Reflections on the Advantages of
 Draining, Inclosing, &c. by Mr. Pining-
 ton.

THEY should be † leased to industrious, married People ; who have deserved well, by their Servitude and Sobriety, not at more than 3*s.* an Acre, besides the Payment of 4*l.* per Cent. by way of Interest, for the Money laid out in building and keeping in Repair their respective Houses. This Distribution of Lands that lye neglected, would produce an amazing Change in the Conduct of the common People, and be a Means of furnishing us with Provisions in greater Plenty, and upon cheaper Terms, to say nothing of
of

† “ The French, in Order to raise a farther Revenue to the Crown, besides the Suppression of the Farmers-general and the Officers of Grand Masters of their Forests, &c. which will make a prodigious Saving, have likewise a Project in Agitation for letting out the Forests themselves, upon a Lease of 99 Years”. December 16, 1769.

of the Rents ; which would amount to amazing Sums annually. This would create and cherish a Spirit of Industry ; and render them a diffusive Blessing to Society.

By the Industry of the Occupiers, these little Farms would be comfortable, useful Places, and as desirable Nurseries for both People and Stock, for Labor and Plenty, as Man's Heart can wish.

THOUGH I could prove, from better Arguments, in my humble Opinion, than any I have hitherto seen in Print, that the inclosing of Commons is of great Benefit to the Kingdom ; yet it is equally true, that the Rights, Properties and Privileges of the Poor have been, in some Places, grossly invaded in the Division of Commons.

BUT

But their Rights should be by all Means preserved and inviolable. And it may be done without interrupting the great Work of inclosing Commons.

COMMON-RIGHTS, tho' sometimes acquired by Custom or Usage; which presumes a Grant, were in general Grants from the Lords, and originally instituted for the Benefit of the Poor.

To pull down Houses therefore possessed of such Common-right, is acting contrary to the benevolent Intentions of the munificent Donors. Tis also a great Detriment to the Community, because they have a Tendency, while kept up, to promote Population, and many other essential Benefits to Society.

HONEST

HONEST laborious, married People might by way of Reward for their faithful Services be put in the Possession of a Cottage and an adequate Number of Acres in Lieu of Common Right. And those little Habitations should descend, as such to their Sons respectively, who shall appear to be the most remarkable for their Diligence, and Fidelity so long as they continue Day-Labourers.

AND, if they have no male Issue, to one of their Daughters, as a Portion to any labouring Man of honest Fame, who should choose, with her free Consent, to marry her.

OUR want of Timber for the Navy is great and alarming. We are supplied principally with
Timber

Timber from Dantzick, Stettin and Holland. What is shipped at Stettin comes from Silesia, and is contracted for of one Mr. Grieve, as Agent for the King of Prussia. But all of it is very indifferent and much inferior to our English Oak, of which we have very little now in the Dock-yards, being very scarce in the Kingdom.

NONE of the foreign Wood received in our Yards is equal to the worst English Oak.

SULLY, the able and upright Minister of Henry the IVth. of France, with great Difficulty procured an Edict, obliging the Inhabitants of every District in France to sett 3 Acorns, with a proper Fence to guard them from the Cattle, in every Cross-way of their respective

spective Districts through that large Kingdom. Most of the powerful Navy commanded many Years after, by the great Tourville, was built of the Timber produced from those Acorns. I should imagine that our Ministry would do a very acceptable Service to the Public by bringing in a Bill for planting Part of our Forests, Chaces, Commons, &c.

IN a commercial Kingdom, like ours, enriched by such an extensive Navigation, it behoves the Government to take Care, by the Means of Rewards and Penalties, that fresh Successions
of

§ See the ingenious Mr. Hanbury's Account of the prodigious Advantages arising from the planting of Commons. And a Calculation of the Profits arising from Lands, planted with Cedar, Scotch-firs, &c. by William Mitford, Esq;

of Timber may be raised for the sake of Posterity. For we much want, what the Roman Poet describes,

*Sylva frequens trabibus, quam
nulla ceciderat ætas.*

RELATIVE to this Purpose, there is a Passage in *Xenophon*, that well deserves to be taken Notice of: “ If the *Athenians*,
“ says he, had inhabited an
“ Island, and, in Addition to
“ this, had enjoyed the Empire
“ of the Sea, they would have
“ been able, as long as they
“ possessed such Advantages,
“ to have annoyed others, with-
“ out being reciprocally an-
“ noyed by them*”.

WE

* *Xenophon de Repub.* Vid. the ingenious Mr. Harte, P. 102.

He gives a long and interesting Ac-

WE leave the Reader to judge how far this Prophecy may be verified in Regard to England.

THE Attention, due to the Italian or Lombardian Poplar, has been lately set forth, in the public Papers, by the Direction of M. Bertoff, Secretary to the Empress Queen at Brussels.

I HAD the other Day the Pleasure of a Letter from a learned and worthy Clergyman, with the following Account, founded upon his own Knowledge, acquired by Experiments, made to ascertain the Degree of Credit due to the Praises bestowed upon it.

P

“ I HAVE

count of foreign Trees and Plants ; which he apprehends would thrive in Great Britain——such as the Arkennoulli of Switzerland—the Indigo and Sophora Plants, the Wax-tree, Vines, the Larch-tree, and the Rope-Ofier of America. Vid. Hart, 102.

“ I have this Day, March
 “ 17, 1772, taken the Di-
 “ mensions of one of the Lom-
 “ bardian Poplars, set in the
 “ Ground about this Time
 “ three Years, and then not
 “ bigger than my Finger.
 “ The Length of it is 4 Yards
 “ and a Half, and the Cir-
 “ cumference, near the Butt, is
 “ about 6 Inches. But I must
 “ observe that it grows in a
 “ Garden, and a most excel-
 “ lent Soil. I have seen others
 “ in a worse Soil, that are not
 “ so luxuriant. I think the
 “ Number of Cuttings that
 “ we purchased was above
 “ 2000, and the Charge 10
 “ Guineas. If you are desi-
 “ rous of trying any Experi-
 “ ments in your Soil, I shall
 “ be able next Year to furnish
 “ you with several Cuttings.”

WE

WE have some Aquatics, says another ingenious Correspondent, of our own that grow amazingly, perhaps equal to foreign ones, but for the most Part they are strangely neglected. We have Willows that, in a proper Soil, will make very large Trees in twenty Years or little more.

I FORMERLY planted many,—one in particular, is worth Notice. I thrust a Shoot of one Year's Growth into the Bank of a River,—the following Winter some Cattle being put into the Meadow, one of them broke it off near the Ground ; I cut it off an Inch above Ground, the following Spring; from whence sprang three or four fine Shoots. The following Winter I chose out the finest and cut off the rest. About 12 Years ago my

Bailiff wrote me Word, that the Willow had grown so very large and tall, that the Wind had blown it down, and had torn up a vast Piece of the Bank ; that a Carpenter had bid him a Guinea for the Tree, exclusive of Top and Lop, and take it in the Place. ' This Tree had not been planted more than 20 Years. The Wood of this Tree is much closer and firmer than the best Firs. It will grow an amazing Height, and very straight ; and though it is propagated with little Trouble, and grows almost any where near the Water, you may ride 500 Miles, without seeing one of them in its natural State. Great Numbers of them are planted in Stakes of 8 or 10 Feet high without any Top, or, if they have any Tops, they are cut off
at

at that Height when as big as one's Arm, merely for the Sake of the Toppings; which indeed are large and pay well. But the Tree would be very useful and profitable if planted for Timber. 'Tis amazing! but I do not know of so much as one Tree of this Kind now growing in England, unless any of those I planted are still growing; which I have not seen many Years. There was one fine young Tree of this Kind growing within 5 Miles of London, within these two Years; it seemed to be about 9 or 10 Years old, and about 25 Feet high: but the Top is now off and converted into a Pollard.

THE white Poplar grows nearly as fast; but undergoes, for the more Part, the same dis-

P 3 agreeable

agreeable Amputation. I know very few that have their Topson, —The Wood is more porous, softer and lighter than the Willow. The Abele is another very fast growing Tree, but I prefer the other, especially the first.

THE Carolina Poplar seems to grow very fast, but its Shoots commonly dive a good way down in the Winter. Novelty is very prevalent; we eagerly pursue new Plants, &c. and totally neglect what are natural to our Climate, and may with Care and little Expence be cultivated to incredible Advantage.—However, I intend getting a few Plants of the Italian Poplar, and trying what may be expected from them. Improvements in Agriculture should, perhaps, be the Patriot's first Concern. For a Country well cultivated, where Manufactures
are

are encouraged, abounds in Villages and great Towns, is stored with People; many of them are rich; The Generality live in Plenty, and even the Peasants and lowest Mechanics enjoy all the Necessaries, not to say Conveniences of Life. But Countries unimproved are mere Parks and Forests; here the Towns and Villages are few and small, the People are unemployed, and, if they may be said to live, yet it is in a miserable and wretched Manner†.

HOWEVER, though it be allowed that Agriculture deserves the greatest Encouragement, because it produces the most essential Necessaries of Life, without which Mankind cannot subsist, such as Bread, animal Food and the Materials of which our

P 4

Raiments

† See Cantillon's Analysis, &c.

Raiments are fabricated, there are powerful Reasons why Manufactures merit our constant, and some very sensible Writers say, our principal Attention. Manufactures, and foreign Trade are the grand Sources of Riches, Power and Strength. Agriculture yields the Means of Subsistence and Materials. But Manufactures and Trade add perhaps a tenfold Value. The following Essay, exhibiting a Comparison of the Advantages derived from Agriculture and Commerce, drawn up about 20 Years ago, by an able Manufacturer, at the Devises, under the Direction, and

* Considerations on the Policy, &c. The Author of that Treatise, and Mr. Wimpey; who has written against the Bounty upon Corn, in so masterly a Manner, deserve the Thanks of the Community for their excellent Publications.

and with the Assistance of a great Personage; who is no more, will probably, illustrate the Subject and gratify the Curiosity of every Reader of Taste and Discernment.

ON the Proportion between the Number of Hands necessary to make, from the Wool, in the Space of one Year 600*l.* worth of woollen Cloth of a determined Goodness, and the Number of People employed to produce the same Sum from a Farm of 200*l.* a Year.

A FARM, of 200*l.* a Year Value, cannot employ, take the Year round, above 12 Hands, if my Memory does not fail me, with Regard to the Number. If you suppose the yearly Value of the Product to be three Rents,

Rents, then the Labour of 12 Hands, in the several Kinds of Business belonging to one Farm, is sufficient to produce the Value of 600*l.* in Beef, Mutton, Butter, Corn, &c.

BUT the spinning, weaving, dying, and the other various necessary Preparations of a sufficient Quantity of Wool for 600*l.*'s. worth of Cloth, will not employ less than 200 Hands to make such a Quantity of Cloth in one Year; which is the Value of the Product of the Farm, supposing three Rents to be the proper Value of the annual Product of the Farm. But if the annual Product be set at 4 Rents, that is 800*l.* then it will require the Labour
of

of 250 Hands to make, within the Year, a Quantity of Cloth of equal Value to the Produce of the Farm : so that the Difference between the Labor in providing clothing, and that for Diet, must be very Great. For in the Manufactory, Nature only provides the Materials ; and every Preparation of the Materials and the weaving, &c. is done by Hands : whereas in the Products of the Farm ; which are the various Kinds of Food for Man, the Labour of Man in these is little else than laying the Materials properly together for Nature to go to work, and to produce them. She is the Weaver in this Case. Nature swells the Seed of the Corn and draws it out gradually into certain

tain Lengths, and conveys proper Juices, by Circulation, into every Fibre of this distending Plant, which nourish and augment it until it has brought it to its full Growth and perfect Maturity. It is Man's Labour to Place the Ox where the proper Grass or Turneps are : but it is Nature's Work to fatten the Beast with this Grass or Turneps. Thus Nature has reserved to herself the Chief of the Labor in producing Food for Man, and left to Man, as a proper Task for his Industry and Employment in Life, the Principal of the Labor of providing himself with Clothing. From hence it appears that it is a true Saying, That Hands will follow and create Work. For few Comers will want more Assistance, in many Respects, from the Inhabitants
of

of the Country they come in, than they can give to them. And every new Acquisition of industrious Inhabitants to any Country, is an Encouragement to the Industry of its old ones, and a greater Quantity of Labor in Manufactures of all Kinds is performed in such a Nation in Proportion to its Increase of Inhabitants ; and the Exports of such a Country must increase.

THAT I may be understood perfectly, let me suppose that England was now to have an Increase of 1,000,000 of Inhabitants from any other Country, and that all these were employed entirely on the several various Manufactures now known. Would not this Acquisition of new Inhabitants call for a larger Quantity of Materials to manufacture

acture than were before wanted? Would not the Products of the Lands receive a quicker Demand, and Improvements of the Land be the Consequence of such Increase of Demand of its Products both for Food and Manufactures? And would there not be a larger Quantity of Shipping employed by the old Inhabitants to import the greater Quantities of foreign Materials now wanted for our Manufactures, as well as to carry out our increased Quantities of Manufactures?

THE Importance of the Plow and the Loom merits the Protection and Encouragement of the Legislature. But the only Encouragement they require is Freedom and Plenty. The Nature of the Former has been already

ready stated. Some Means have been pointed out for furnishing us with the Latter, &c. but yet, if some Method is not taken to restrain and limit the Profits of Millers and other Persons concerned in the Sale of of Provisions, the Poor will still be much oppressed.

Mr. C. of W——m, demonstrated some Years since, that those People get between 5 and 6 $\frac{1}{2}$. for every † Last of Corn they grind and bolt. They attempted, with a Torrent of Pertness, and Abuse ; to shew he was mistaken in his Calculation. But conscious that his Reasoning was founded
on

† A Last of Corn, according to the Computation here alluded to, is 21 Coombs; or 10 Quarters and a Half.

on Facts he thought it unnecessary and consequently disdained to reply.

SOME Millers keep three or four Water-Mills and a Windmill constantly at work. But a Water-mill grinds more than 3 Lasts a Week, and a Windmill in general more than 2. The weekly Gains of such Miller, allowing him handsomely for Rent, the Interest of his Money in Trade,—Journey-men's Wages, keeping of Horses, Housekeeping, for his own Care and Trouble, and Hazard in Trade, will be enormous†.

MIL-

† An ingenious and learned Correspondent in Norwich, informs me that a Miller, near that City, died a few Months since, possessed of a Fortune of not less than 12,000*l.* acquired by his Business.

MILLERS, not many Years since, called at People's Houses, for their Corn to grind, and returned the Meal, deducting only 5lb. a Bushel for their Trouble in carrying and grinding. If the Owner carried the Corn to the Mill and brought the Meal Home, the Miller took only at the Rate of 4lb. a Bushel for his Trouble in grinding, &c*.

UNDER these Circumstances they lived not uncomfortably. But now, by their Oppression and fraudulent Practices, they set up for Gentlemen, keep Hunters, Chariots, and affect Grandeur and Elegance.

Q

IT

* According to Dalton, C. 112, the Miller ought to take but one Quart for grinding one Bushel of hard Corn; but if he fetch and carry back the Grist to the Owner, he may take two Quarts of hard Corn, whether it be Wheat, Rye or Mellin.

It is very easy for Parliament to redress this great Grievance, either by taking away from Millers the Liberty of selling Meal and Flour, or, by obliging them to take in Money, what is fair and equitable, for grinding Corn, or, by investing the Magistrates, as in the Case of Bread, with a Power to regulate and ascertain the Prices of Meal, in Proportion to the Price of Wheat, &c.

THE present Laws, relating to the Assize of Bread, it is apprehended, are limited to Cities and Corporation Towns. Parliament therefore should create a Law to invest the Justices with full and ample Powers to fix the Assize of Meal, Flour, and Bread, in Proportion to the Price of Wheat, every Month,
in

in some Market Town, for the Benefit of all the Towns and Villages in their respective Hundreds.

A LAW, framed upon a Plan of this Kind, for regulating the Conduct of Millers and Bakers, would effectually put it out of their Power, to enhance the Prices of Meal, Flour and Bread, beyond their natural Value ; and would by no Means, be calculated to restrain the Freedom of Trade.

THERE should be heavy Penalties inflicted upon the Millers, who mix Buck-wheat, or Pease with Wheat, partly because the former are flatulent and, in some Degree, unwholesome; but, principally, because they may be bought much cheaper

Q 2

than

than Wheat. 8 Ann C. 18, S. 3, 5, 7, provides against the Roguery of Bakers in this Case.

To prevent the Combination of Bakers to enhance the Price of Bread, every such Person shall forfeit 10*l.* &c. by 2 and 3 Ed. VI. C. 15. But there is no Prohibition of this Kind, with Regard to the Conduct of Millers. I suppose because, according to Dalton, C. 112, Millers are not to be common Buyers of any Corn, to sell the same again, either in Corn or Meal; but ought only to serve for the grinding of Corn that shall be brought to their Mills. *Now*, however, though contrary to Law, they exercise and carry on the lucrative Business

finesses of Meal-Men, Flour-Merchants, and Bakers, as well as that of Millers.

“ MILLERS, says a Gentle-
 “ man of great Experience, Hu-
 “ manity and Knowledge, are ex-
 “ actly the People you repre-
 “ sent. I detected (a Tenant I
 “ have) a Miller last Year of
 “ an old, but villainous Fact.
 “ ——I ordered a Bushel of
 “ Wheat to be weighed and
 “ sent to the Mill. When it
 “ came Home, I had it weigh-
 “ ed again: it wanted 14lb.
 “ of the Weight, and 7lb. of
 “ what was returned was
 “ Bran.——I complained loud-
 “ ly at Home, which some how
 “ reached the Miller’s Ears,
 “ though I had not then any
 “ such Intention.— —I sent a-

Q 3

nother

“ nother Bushel that came Home
 “ its Weight, all but 7lb. But
 “ then 14lb. of it was Bran.
 “ ———So that I was only 7lb.
 “ of Bran better than I was be-
 “ fore. This I think was a
 “ most palpable Proof of this
 “ Man’s Knavery at least”.

It is a known Fact that the
 great Millers will not grind a
 small Portion of Corn for a
 poor Man : or if they do, the
 Favour is granted under such
 Circumstances as, in the End,
 renders it an Injury. Flour-
 Mills, † says the amiable Gen-
 tleman alluded to in *P. 224*,
 are one of the Curses of this
 Country.

THE following Letter from
 an ingenious and worthy Gen-
 tleman

tleman at Woolwich, farther proves the Necessity of some Regulations with Regard to Millers ; and, if the Legislature do not condescend to enact some new Laws, points out another Method to Gentlemen of Property, &c. of relieving the Poor, &c.

“ I now sit down to give you an Account of the Motives that induced the labouring Artificers

Q 4

† It is an usual Practice with the Mealmen in Gloucestershire and some of the neighbouring Counties, till they have bought in their Stocks of Wheat, by Combinations to lower the Markets. But when they have engrossed great Quantities into their own Hands, by various Artifices, such as shewing Letters from Corn-factors, setting forth that there is a Scarcity of Grain, in Order to give a Sanction to their selling Flour at advanced and exorbitant Profits, they raise the Prices in a most shameful Manner.

tificers of his Majesty's Dockyard, here, to erect a Windmill. By a Combination of the Millers, Mealmen, Bakers, and other Engrossers, in the Cornway, the lower Rank of People, in the Neighbourhood, found the price of Bread and Flour, &c. yearly encreasing (notwithstanding there were plentiful Crops of Corn almost every where) to such a Degree that their daily Earnings could not supply their Families with Bread alone. This Oppression set the Heads of some of the more thinking People among them to work : so in Summer, 1709, the Artificers in this Dockyard had a Meeting to take the Affair into Consideration ; and at last agreed to enter into a Subscription among themselves

themselves for building a Mill
 and a Bakehouse, in Opposition
 to those Engrossers and Oppres-
 sors of Mankind. The Mill
 accordingly began to be built,
 and was finished, and began to
 work in December, 1759. In
 March following it was burnt
 down, and supposed to have
 been set on Fire, designedly, by
 those who thought themselves
 injured by such an Undertaking.
 However, this Loss did not de-
 ter the worthy Undertakers
 from carrying their Scheme into
 Execution. They immediately
 set Hands to work, and built
 another Mill on the same Spot ;
 which was, finished, and be-
 gan to work in February, 1761,
 as also a Bakehouse, which
 have continued to work ever-
 since, to the great Advantage
 and

and Emolument of every one in this Neighbourhood, as Flour is constantly sold here 2 Pence in the Peck cheaper than in London, or any where else in this County. The Proprietors give a Half-peck Loaf every Week to the Widow of every one who subscribed, as long as she lives. And a Quarter-loaf to each Child till they arrive to the Years of 15. They have had a great Number of those Pensioners, since the Mill was first erected; and yet, notwithstanding they have given yearly so much away, the Proprietors, out of the Profits, have had each of them his Money returned to him some Years ago. And they farther say, if it was not for the Charities given away to the

the Widows and Children of the deceased Members, they could afford to bring the Price of Bread much lower than it now is. The Number of Subscribers were originally some Hundreds: so the Profit from one Mill must be very great that could, in so short a Time, clear itself and maintain with Bread so many Widows and Children, and pay a Miller, Baker, and their Underlings. The Miller has a Salary of 50*l.* a Year, and I think the Baker, to be the same†”.

THE worthy Persons concerned in this Measure, so admirably calculated to promote the Public as well as private Utility, should have their Names
transf-

† There is also a Mill at Chatham, on the same Plan with that of Woolwich, built by the People of the Dock-yard.

transmitted to Posterity with respect and Gratitude. I am informed that the Gentlemen and principal Tradesmen at Bury St. Edmund's in Suffolk, have now a Scheme of this Kind in Hand. I wish them Success, and that their Example may be universally followed.

THE Millers and Bakers in the County of Kent were so enraged, when the Chatham Mill was first erected, that they brought two different Actions against the Men employed to manage the Mill and Bakehouse, alledging they had no Right to carry on these Trades, having never served their Apprenticeships to them. The Causes were tried at the Assizes for the County, at Maidstone, when the

the Plaintiffs, the Millers and Bakers, were cast in both Actions”.

THE Dearness of Provisions is a Subject; that has been much agitated. It may be ascribed to the unfavorable Seasons and the Failure of our Crops—the Bounty upon exported Corn—the unequal Distribution of Lands—the Exportation of Horses—the various and exorbitant Profits of Jobbers, Salesmen, Butchers, &c.—immense Riches, flowing from an extensive Commerce—our excessive Taxes and Luxury, &c.

THE principal Cause of the Dearness of Butcher’s Meat, is owing to the following Circumstances.

In

In 1762 the Summer was remarkably dry, and the next Winter very wet; Fodder of every Kind was consequently scarce and dear; by which Means a great Number of lean Stock died, for want of Keeping, and a greater Number was sold amazingly cheap; not to say given away.

FARMERS and Graziers had few or no Calves the following Spring. When Wives asked their Husbands, shall we bring up the Calves? The Answer was, for what! To starve them as the Case was last Year. The same Reasoning may be applied to the present Time.

THE heavy Rains and Dissolution of the deep Snow, produced a vast Body of Water; which

which in the Winter, 1770 and 1771, overflowed many large Fens, destroyed the Fodder, and obliged the distressed Owners of the Cattle to behave as in the Calamity of 1762 and 3. The Frosts destroyed the Turneps, and an amazing Number of Lambs. The Drought in the Summer in 1771, parched the Ground, and has rendered Hay exceedingly scarce. The Turnep Crop is a very bad one; so that animal Food must have been and must be extravagantly dear, if Providence should not continue, a Blessing hitherto granted to us, the mildest Winter that ever was known in the Memory of Man.

THE Seasons of sowing Wheat in 1768 and 1770, being very wet, Thousands of Acres lay fallow

fallow during those two Winters, and were sown with Wheat or Barley in the Spring. But Wheat sown in the Spring produces a very poor Crop, compared with the Wheat sown in the Autumn.

THESE Facts account in some Measure for the Scarcity and Dearness of Butchers Meat and Corn.

BUT the Bounty upon exported Corn has also contributed very much towards raising the Prices of Provisions. This Proposition is demonstrated in *The Causes of the Dearness of Provisions assigned, &c.* § to which I have often referred in the Course of this Work, and
in

§ Printed in 1766 at Gloucester, and sold by Mr. Doddsley, Price 1s. 6d.

in the excellent *Mr. Wimpey's* Writings upon the *same Subject*. I am certain that the warmest Espousers of the Bounty, divested of Prejudice, will be convinced that it is a very pernicious Measure, provided they fairly attend to what follows.

I WILL just give the Substance of two or three of the many Arguments urged against the Bounty by the first of these Writers. The principal Argument, offered in favour of the Bounty, is, that we have raised much greater Quantities of Corn, and have had it cheaper* in general *since*, than it was *before* that Premium was granted: the Bounty, therefore, was the Cause of these greater Quantities and Cheapness.

R

THE

* Two very sensible Writers, the Author of the *Occasion of the Dearness of Provisions*, published in 1767; and *Mr. Wimpey* assign powerful Reasons in Favor of a different Opinion.

THE Premises are granted ;
but the Consequence is denied.

HE dates our Liberty and Improvements in Agriculture, &c. from the happy Æra of the Revolution. Our Ancestors were no sooner sensible of the Security of their Liberties and Properties, but they vied with each other in cultivating their Lands, in encouraging Trade and Commerce, and were seized with an insatiable Desire of improving the Arts and Sciences. From Inquiries and Experiments we soon acquired a superior Skill in Agriculture ; which soon enabled us to raise Corn in vast Abundance. Improvements and Refinements made a rapid Progress. These were the happy Consequences of Freedom.

“ THINE

“ THINE, Freedom! thine
 the Blessings pictur'd here;
 “ Thine are the Charms that
 dazzle and endear”,

BUT if the Bounty is the Cause of our growing greater Quantities of Corn, I shall be glad to learn from the Advocates for this Measure, how it happens that all Parts of the Kingdom do not grow greater Quantities of Corn? That one County in particular, has some Years exported nine Parts out of ten, of all the Barley that has been shipped for foreign Markets, though all the Counties are entitled alike to this Bounty! If they answer, the Lands of this County are better than those of any other; then the Goodness of the Lands, and not the Bounty, is the Cause

of their growing greater Quantities of Corn. If they say the Situation of that County is more convenient for Exportation, then the Situation, and not the Bounty, is the Cause, &c. &c.

WOULD Gentlemen have a Bounty, when Corn is dear or cheap? Not when it is dear, because that Encouragement for Exportation would soon make it dearer, and, perhaps, produce a Famine. To grant it, when Corn is cheap would be unnecessary, because that very Cheapness would be a very sufficient Inducement for Foreigners to purchase it.

BUT the Advocates for the Bounty will answer——The Bounty has not contributed to the present Dearness of Provisions,

sions, because no leave for Exportation, and consequently no Bounty, has been granted for some Years

To which I reply

E F F E C T S are often produced by Causes, which apparently have ceased to operate, and even to exist. The Bounty, by constantly enabling our Corn Merchants to supply Foreigners with our Corn cheaper than they could be furnished with it from any other Country, has not, since this Trade has been well understood, suffered any considerable Quantities of Grain to remain, for any Time, in the Kingdom, on Account of this unnatural Encouragement given for the Exportation of it. The want of a Stock

of Corn in Hand, when the Crops here have failed, has co-operated with that Cause, and contributed, beyond Description, to our Distress.

LET us, however, hope that our Case is not desperate. And yet I am afraid, though the Legislature may, probably, pass a Bill for the Importation of Wheat from the European States, without Exception, as well as from North America, with a Bounty, that we shall receive but little or no Benefit from it. The distressed State of the Poles, occasioned by foreign Troops carrying on a War against the Confederates, together with their own intestine Divisions, have prevented the Cultivation of those Lands, which used to supply many Countries with large Quantities of Rye and other Sorts of Grain. The Dutch ; who though they do

do not raise half the Corn they consume, yet, by a Providence, worthy of Imitation, generally form Magazines to furnish the other European Powers in Times of Scarcity with Corn, are now so distressed that they dread a Famine. The Emperor and the French have drained the respective Provinces in the Netherlands. The Spaniards and the Italian States complain of a Scarcity, and apprehend a Dearth. If the People of New England, New York or Pennsylvania, have any Corn to spare, it can hardly arrive to our Relief till Harvest. Government may, and, it is to be hoped, will very speedily take some other Means. The Inhabitants of Carolina, &c. abound, it is thought, in Rice at this Time. To encourage them to export it to the Mother

try, in large Quantities, the Duty should be taken off, and a Bounty granted. An immediate Stop should be put to the Exportation of Corn and salt Provisions from Ireland, to France and Holland. A Bounty should be allowed to the Americans and Irish for every Kind of animal Food they can spare for our Use.

THOUGH no immediate Leave has been granted for the Exportation of Wheat, for several Years; yet Merchants have sent large Quantities of Wheat since the Exportation was prohibited to Ireland, from whence some has been shipped to France † and other Countries, and some depo-

† This, however is expressly prohibited by 9 and 10 of Geo. III. C. 1. 10.

deposited in Magazines, with the well-grounded Expectation of receiving Orders to send it back at a very advanced Price.

So long as the Irish are permitted, though clandestinely, to export Corn, a Prohibition at Home, can answer no great Purpose. France and Spain will be supplied. And whenever our Ports are opened, if the Irish have any of the Wheat; which they received from England, laid up in Granaries, we may, probably, receive it again, as the Produce of North America, &c. upon paying a Bounty, Freight to and from Ireland, or Holland, to say nothing of the Merchant's Profit; which will be proportionable to the general Demand.

As

As Brandy, Geneva, and other spirituous Liquors are very destructive to the human Constitution, it would be a Happiness to Mankind, and a great Means of increasing Population, if the different Powers of all States and Countries would agree and unite entirely to prevent the Distillation of them. Though this would increase the Quantity of Grain, and render Bread, with other Provisions, much cheaper than they are at present; yet so strong are the Prejudices of Politicians in Favour of a Trade that makes such a large Addition to the Revenue, that the bare Mention of it will be considered as Eutopian, though the Reasoning advanced to prove the pernicious Effects of these poisonous Liquors, by the late Bishop of

Wor-

cester, and those great Friends of Mankind, Dr. Hales, and Mr. Dean Tucker, is Demonstration.

BUT now that the Dearness of Provisions, occasioned by this Evil, and the several Causes here assigned, threatens great Distresses, not to say a Famine, an entire Stop should be put to the Distillery. By increasing the Consumption of any Commodity, the Quantity must be lessened, and the Price of it consequently raised. To lessen the Consumption of Grain will be a Means of reducing the Price of it. But to prohibit the distilling of Spirits from Barley would very much diminish the Consumption of it.

THE very Poor have it in their Power to contribute greatly towards lowering the Prices of Provisions, by totally abstaining for a Time from the Use

- Use of those Articles; which are not absolutely necessary to the Preservation of Life.—The Men, in general, whether Day-Labourers or Mechanics, may make a vast Saving without doing any Injury to their Healths; by drinking ‡ Water now and then, instead of Ale, Beer and other fermented Liquors. If the Nobility, and Gentry, the Clergy and Yeomanry, Shopkeepers and Tradefinen, would observe the same Rule, the Price of Barley and other Grains would
in

“ ‡ The Porters of Constantinople,
 “ who never drink any Thing stronger
 “ than Water, and eat very little animal
 “ Food, will lift and carry heavier Bur-
 “ thens than any other Porters in the known
 “ World. Travellers say that a Turkish
 “ Porter will carry 7 Hundred Weight.
 “ For Preservation of Health, and Exhile-
 “ ration of Spirits there is no Beverage
 “ comparable to simple Water”.

Smollet's Letters, Vol. I. 307, Vol. II.
 230.

in one Month, I had almost said one Week, be greatly affected by it.

THE Money that is laid out weekly by the good Women in Tea and Sugar, Snuff and Butter, which have but little Tendency to satisfy the Appetite, and promote Nutrition, would go a great Way towards furnishing them with Bread, the most essential Necessary of Life.

How the unequal Distribution of Lands affect the Prices of Provisions is explained and illustrated in *The Causes of the Dearness, &c. Mr. Wimpey's Tracts*, and *Dr. Price's Supplement*, P. 360, 1. But whether the great Farmers have any considerable Stocks of Corn by them, at this Time, or not, I cannot, from my own Knowledge, say.

I am told that they have a sufficient Quantity for our necessary Consumption till we have new Wheat. That they should have some, at all Times, is absolutely necessary for the Safety and Welfare of the Kingdom. But that the Populace, though distressed, should tumultuously assemble, set Fire to Barns, and Granaries, or Mills, and live by Plunder and Rapine, is subversive of all Government. All good Citizens will unite, will discourage and suppress Riots and every Tendency to such Disorders of the State.

THE Security of our Property, through the Sanction of Laws enacted by the King, Lords and Commons, is one of the greatest Blessings we enjoy, our Property, Thanks be to
God!

God ! is sacred. Extreme Necessity, even where there is the most enormous Violation of the Laws, cannot justify the illegal Seizure of it. Every Man's House is his Castle. To oblige the Farmers, therefore, by an Act of Parliament to sell their Corn, at a particular Price, when they have any Inclination to keep it in their Barns or Granaries, would justly be deemed an arbitrary and oppressive Measure. But there is one fair and justifiable Method, which, from a Motive of Interest, would induce them to bring it to Market, *Let the Ports be at all Times open. Take away the Bounty.* This will be an infallible Means of furnishing our own People with Bread upon as moderate Terms as our Neighbours are supplied with it.

If

If an unlimited Freedom for the § Exportation and Importation of all Sorts of Grain is granted, the Corn-trade must undoubtedly flourish in *Great Britain*, where Agriculture is better understood than it is in any other Country under Heaven, to say nothing of the many Advantages we derive from the Nature of our Government, &c.

THIS will excite and enable our enterprising and adventurous Merchants to find out Markets for what Corn we have to spare.† And, whenever a Scarcity, through the unfavorableness

§ Leaving a Power in the Crown, and Privy Council, to prohibit the Exportation by a Proclamation, as the Circumstances and Necessities of the Times may require, E. G. when Wheat is 48 and Barley 24s. a Quarter, according to 17 Richard II. and 35 Elizabeth.

† See *Thoughts upon several interesting Subjects, &c.* by Mr. Wimpey, P. 10, 11, &c.

vorableness of the Seasons, or any other Calamity happens to be our Lot, it will be their Interest to use their warmest Endeavors to fill our Granaries by Importation from other Countries. The Growers, if we act upon these natural Principles, will be encouraged to be industrious, and the laboring Poor, with all other Denominations of People, will abound in the Necessaries of Life. Thus the landed Interest, as well as that of the various Manufacturers, will be united, secured and promoted by the Means of Freedom, which is the primary and essential Cause of Trade and Commerce, of Peace and Plenty, of Opulence and Power.

S

WE

WE learn from the Papers, that some Gentlemen, celebrated for their superior Abilities, are of Opinion, that when the Price of Wheat shall be at or under 40s. a Quarter, it will be expedient not only to permit the Exportation, but to allow the present Bounty of 5s. a Quarter upon the Exportation of such Wheat as shall be of the Growth and Product of *Great Britain*, &c. What Reasons they offer to support this Opinion, I know not.

BUT I hope that what they urge in Favour of it will, some Time or other, be made public.

THOUGH I grant that the Exportation should not be restrained, when Wheat is at that Price;
yet

yet to the Reasons already assigned, against granting a Bounty at all, I will add a few Lines to shew why a Bounty should not by any Means be given, when Wheat is 40s. a Quarter.

WHEN Wheat is 36s. a Quarter it begins to be dear. When it is so high as 40s. a Quarter, it approaches to *very dear**, and indicates a real or artificial Scarcity†. The Merchants, from

S 2

whom

* We all know how the Poor murmured and complained a few Months since, when it came to that Price.

† If the *Spirit of the Times* must have a Bounty, I hope it never will be granted, when Wheat is at or above 36s. and Barley at or above 18s. a Quarter, &c. I ought not to say *the Spirit of the Times*, because I verily believe that nine Parts in Ten of all the People in the Kingdom consider it as highly prejudicial to the Nation. And though I do not think that the *Vox Populi* is always *Vox Dei*, yet it should not be entirely disregarded. If a Bounty should be allowed

whom I have received my Intelligence about the Stocks of Corn in Hand, are convinced that the present Dearthness of Corn is owing to the Rapacity and Artificers of the Growers; who, like the worthy Gentlemen of the Alley, speculate upon the Subject, and hoard up their Corn to advance the Prices. I ascribe the Scarcity to that, and the other various Causes enumerated in this Treatise. But in either Case, to
advance

when Wheat is 40s. and Barley 20s. a Quarter, the Transition from 40 to 48s. is so sudden, that it will always give speculative Merchants an Opportunity to avail themselves by the Exportation of large Quantities of Grain with a Bounty, in Order to create a Scarcity, and raise the Price, and enable them to import, with incredible Advantages to themselves, though to the very great Detriment of the Community. What has been, may be, is a very natural Logic.

vance the Price of it, by the Means of a Bounty, would be very detrimental to the State, and to the labouring Poor and low Mechanics in particular.

BUT if such is the Consequence of hoarding now that there is neither Exportation nor Bounty : If the mere granting ‡ Licences, for which Payments, in former Times, were made to crowned Heads, for Leave to export Corn, enhanced the Value of it, we need not wonder that Leave to export with a Bounty should so often and so suddenly raise the Price. But

S 3 what

‡ No Corn could be exported without a Licence from the Crown, 'till 17 of Richard II. when a general Power of exporting was granted, with a Proviso, however, that the King might, by an Order of Council, restrain the same, when he thought proper.

what are we to expect, if the Legislature should grant a Bounty, when Wheat is 40s. a Quarter. One may, without the Spirit of Prophecy, foretell that Corn will never be cheap, while such a Measure of Government continues in Force.

THE great Colbert asked an eminent Merchant, what he should do for the Benefit of Trade.— The Answer ; which he received, from the judicious Merchant was “ Let it alone.” But Corn is an Object, nay the first and principal Object of Trade and Commerce. The Corn Trade therefore wants no Bounty.

Non tali Auxilio, nec Defen-
soribus istis
Tempus eget. Virg. Æn. 2, 521.
 THE

THE common Use of Wheat Bread was confined, 'till very lately, in the Northern and Western Counties, to the Gentry and Persons of easy Circumstances. The Generality of People lived upon Bread made of Messlin, Oat or Barley-Meal. These, however, at present, eat none but what is manufactured of the finest Wheat Flour.

THE Distillers also use great Quantities of Wheat, as well as Barley. By these Means the Consumption of Wheat and Barley is increased, the Prices of them are proportionably raised, and must, consequently, continue so high, as not very frequently to admit of the Exportation of any great Quantity.

the

THE laboring Poor eat little else, but Bread. And as Bread, made of the finest Wheat Flour, affords more Nourishment than what is made of a coarser Kind, we should, by all Means, endeavor to furnish them with a Plenty of it, and upon the easiest Terms possible. But a Bounty upon exported Corn will lessen the Quantity and make it much dearer. A Bounty therefore, upon this Account, as well as for many other Reasons, should never be granted.

THE Exportation of Horses, to say nothing of the amazing Number that are now used in Post-Chaises; which were hardly known in this Island about 25 Years ago, has been the Cause of an immense Consumption of Oats. This Trade
has

has rendered the Prices of Horses, that are necessary for Carts, Waggon, &c. as dear again as they were about 20 Years since. At that Time a Farmer could furnish himself with a Team of 5 good Horses for 40 or 50*l*. which he cannot now do for less than 90 or 100*l*. But as Horses sell at such exorbitant ‡ Prices, much fewer Calves are reared; which must lessen the Number of live Stock, and make animal Food dear.

We should derive many Advantages from bringing up a greater Number of black Cattle and fewer Horses. The Former furnish us, at a Trifle of Expence,

‡ A Colt of 2 Years old will sell for 15 or 20 Guineas. But 4 or 5 good Steers, of the same Age, may be bought for that or less Money.

Expence, with Milk, Butter, and Cheefe, and animal Food, for our Nourishment, and with Leather for our Shoes.——The Latter afford us nothing but Labour, in common with the more valuable Oxen, in Lieu of Hay and Oats ; which, at this Time, are scarce and dear Commodities,

A HEAVY Duty should therefore be laid upon every Horse that is exported. No Calves, no Lambs should be killed between Christmas and the first of May. But the various and exorbitant Profits ; which are made by the Salesman, Butchers and other Persons concerned between the Grazier and Consumer are enormous.

BEEF

BEEF is now sold at $5d. \frac{1}{2}$ and $6d.$ Mutton at $6d. \frac{1}{2}$ and $7d.$ —
 Veal at $8d.$ and $9d.$ per Pound
 in London, though the first
 is sold 100 Miles from London,
 at $4d.$ Mutton at $4d. \frac{1}{2}$ and
 Veal at $3d.$ in a Retail Way ;
 and which is more extraordinary
 the Contract Prices of Beef and
 Pork, purchased by the Com-
 missioners for victualling his
 Majesty's Navy, for the last 5
 Years, stand exactly thus.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Beef.</i>	<i>Pork.</i>
1767.]		
Lady Qr.—	27s. p. Cwt,	
Midsummer,	21s. 4d.	
Michaelmas,	27s.	
Christmas,	26s. 6d.	No Pork purcha- fed.

4 | 101 10

Medium Prices, $25s. 5d. \frac{1}{2}$
 1768.]

Lady, 26s. 6d,

Midfr.

1768.] s. d.

Midfr. 25 2

Michs. 25 10

Xmas. 22 10

Ditto, 26 2

*Pork.*None
purchased.

 5 | 126 6

Medium, 25 3 $\frac{1}{2}$

1769.] s. d.

Lady, 26 2

Midfr. 22 0

Ditto, 21 4

Michls. 21 10

Ditto, 22 6d

Xmas. - - -

33s. Cwt.

 5 | 113 10

Medium, 22 9

1770.] s. d.

Lady, 22 6

Midfr. 20 4

Michs. Nil.

33s. Cwt.

Xmas.

(269)

Beef.

Pork.

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Xmas.	23	9

3	66	17
---	----	----

Medium, 22 2 $\frac{1}{4}$

4^{rs.} 5^{p.} Cwt.

1771.]

Lady, 27 0

4^{rs.} 5^{d.} p. Cwt.

Midfr. 19 9

Ditto, 23 6

Michs. 21 0

Xmas. 21 3

4^{rs.} 5^{d.}
2 | 86 | 11

5	112	6
---	-----	---

Medium, 22 6

Medium, 43^{s.} 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ^{s.}

1772.]

Lady, no Bills yet made out.

WHEN those Contracts are made, they are only for such Meat as will take Salt, neither Shins, Hicking-Pieces nor Clods are included. The Meat must be

be of the best Kind and of the largest Cattle. For neither Bullock nor Hog is received under such a Weight, as is mentioned in the Contract; which is very considerable, though I do not recollect exactly the stated Weight.

IN Order to reduce the excessive Price of Butchers Meat, &c. it is to be hoped the Workmen of all the Yards will follow the laudable Example of those in Woolwich and Deptford; who have entered into a Subscription for buying Cattle in Order to bring the Butchers to their right Senses. Subscriptions are made for the same excellent Purpose, in the Metropolis, at Bristol, and in many other Parts of the Kingdom. I earnestly wish the Alarm may
become

become general.—'Tis high Time it should.—The Affair is of a very serious and important Nature. And as it is of such a general and national Concern, there is no Doubt but Parliament will take it into their most serious Consideration.

BUT it is an old Saying, Law-makers are often the first Law-breakers. We remember the Scheme for reducing the Price of Fish. Though like every other Plan, framed by finite Creatures, it was not free from Imperfections; yet it would have been attended with all the Success, that we could reasonably have expected, and would have effectually ficken'd the Fish-mongers; if the great World had heartily espous'd it: But their Countenance and
Sanction

Sanction were wanting. The Society was to receive ready Money for their Fish—a sort of Payment; which People of Fashion† do not always make. The Luxury of the Times, the many Public Amusements and Places of Resort for gaming, &c. exhaust their ready Cash; so that they are under the Necessity of running

† I have heard of a Man of Fashion, and it is highly probable, that there are many others under the same Predicament, who has been upwards of 3000l. at one Time, in his Taylor's Debt.

It is very well remembered how the D—— of —— sent to his Fishmonger in a late contested Election, desiring him to vote for L——d T———. Upon a Demur, on K——t, the Fishmonger's Side, the noble Duke peremptorily told him, if he did not vote for his Friend, that he would actually pay him off, and give an Order for buying his Fish of some other Person. The Fishmonger made a low Bow, and said he should be very much obliged to his Grace for paying his Bill.

running very long Scores with Fishmongers, Butchers and all Tradesmen. There is too much Reason to believe that many of them would rather pay a Tradesman, on Account of long Credit, a Hundred, than accept of an Abatement of fifty per Cent, in Consideration of prompt Payment, for the same Commodity. And it is to be feared that Schemes, calculated for the Public Good, frequently miscarry from this and no other Cause. The Tradesman is, without Doubt, entitled to Interest for the Use of his Money, in Proportion to the Credit required by the great Man; and the Difficulty of recovering it, on Account of the Privileges granted to his Rank, to say nothing of the Hazard he runs of not receiving it at

T

all.

all. But it is extremely hard that the honest and industrious should suffer for the Indiscretion and Luxury of the gay, unthinking World.

THERE is great Reason to believe that the Prices of many other Articles, so necessary for the Preservation of Life, are too much enhanced by the mysterious Arts and fraudulent Contrivances of those, who deal in them. E. G. Butter is sold where I live, at Six-pence-half-penny a pound, in a Retail Way. The Expence of carrying it to London, including what is paid for Casks is not a Penny a Pound. But the Butter of this County is sold in London for a Shilling a pound. The Sale of Cheshire Cheese is quite a Monopoly.

THE

THE most considerable Cheese-mongers in London have formed themselves into a Club. They are Owners of about 16 Ships; which are employed between London, Chester and Liverpool. They employ these Ships chiefly in bringing up Cheese to London. They have Factors in Cheshire who buy up the Cheese for them, and lodge it in their Warehouses at Chester. At their weekly Meetings they settle what Quantity each shall have brought up to Market. By this Means the Market is fed in such a Manner, that they command whatever Price they please. If any one offers to have Cheese brought by any other Vessel; which are called *bye Vessels*, they presently intimidate them, by threatening never to bring any more for

them. They have been long endeavouring to monopolize the whole shipping Trade to those Places, by carrying Goods at a lower Price than others can afford to do, and laying it on the Freight of Cheese; which they have totally engrossed. Should the Freighters, for the sake of a little present Gain, suffer them to effect this; they will be able in future, to make them pay what Freight they please; so that you see they make an artificial Scarcity of Cheese, and have done so for some Years; and there is no Prospect of its being otherwise*.

THE Fishmongers contribute to this national Calamity. They frequently sell a Fish for a Guinea;

* Vid. Mr. Wimpey's Thoughts upon Interesting Subjects, &c. P. 39.

nea; which did not cost them more than half a Crown.

'Tis very extraordinary that *Great Britain*; which is surrounded by the Sea, that inexhaustible Fund of Riches, and can boast of many fine Rivers, should not abound in Fish.

IF Fisheries were properly encouraged, they would be an effectual Means of reducing the Price of Provisions, and of employing an incredible Number of Hands in making the various Sorts of Cordage, and Nets, Sail-cloths and Tackle, Boats and even Vessels of Burden, the Navigation of which would be an excellent Nursery for Sailors. These Considerations merit the Attention of Persons of Fortune

and a benevolent, liberal Way of Thinking.

THE Author of *Thoughts on Trade and Commerce*, has taken some Pains to shew that Taxes and Dearness of Provisions, do not enhance the Prices of Labour; and that it is of the utmost Benefit to a Trading Nation to tax and keep up the Prices of the Necessaries of Life, because it has been observed, that the dearer the Necessaries of Life, the more our Manufacturers are obliged to work, and consequently the greater our Trade and Commerce.

BUT that the Prices of Labour are affected by the Prices of Provisions is evident from the Migration of Manufacturers from Places where Provisions are
 dear,

dear, as Spittal-Fields, Suffolk, Norfolk, Manchester, &c. to other Parts, as Yorkshire, Scotland, &c. where the Necessaries of Life are much cheaper.

THE Difference of the Price of Wages in Norfolk and Yorkshire is now so great, that the Norwich Manufacturers purchase many of their Goods for Exportation in Yorkshire, tho' the same Sorts have formerly been made up in great, and still are manufactured in very small Quantities in Norwich.

ALL Provisions, are much dearer now than they were 25 or 30 Years ago. Then Mutton and Beef were sold in the Neighbourhood where I live at 2d. 2d. $\frac{1}{2}$ and 3d. a Pound.

T 4

BUT

But now they cannot be bought under $3d. \frac{1}{2}$, a Groat or $4d. \frac{1}{2}$. Other Articles have risen in that, or a higher Proportion. About that Time the Wages of Servants were not Half so high as they are at present. And the Prices of Labour of every Kind are much increased in less Time. The other Consequences attending the Increase of our Taxes and Dearness of Provisions, are alarming. The Poor-Rates † are more than double what they were 25 Years ago. Our Manufacturers and Mechanics have quitted their native Land, and settled in Russia, France, North America and the West Indies. And the
Balance

† The astonishing Increase of the Poor-Rates is the Reason why the Prices of Labor have not increased in a much higher Proportion than what they have done within the last 25 Years.—An Observation; which seems to have escaped the Author of *Thoughts on Trade*, &c.

Balance of Trade is against us in almost every Country in Europe; because those Countries; who rival us in Manufactures and Commerce by living cheaper and paying smaller Wages, undersell us in most foreign Markets.

OUR Governors should therefore use their warmest Endeavors to find out effectual Methods to lower the Prices of Provisions. Such a Measure would be a Means of relieving the Distresses of our Fellow-Creatures, whose Feelings must be painful beyond all Description, when they want the common Necessaries of Life, and hear the Cries of starving Innocence.—It would prevent their using unlawful Methods to keep themselves and Families from perishing, and would be a great Encouragement to Trade.

A

A WISE Lawgiver will make it his principal Study to render all Ranks of People happy. But the working Hands deserve his Attention more than all others, because they are more numerous, and their Labor is more essential. As therefore Labor † is so essential, and gives such amazing Value to Lands, as well as Manufactures, he should procure to them the quiet Enjoyment of the Fruits of their Industry, and enable them to purchase the Necessaries, not to say the Conveniences of Life, upon easy Terms.

THIS

† Mr. Locke says that 1% is to be put to the Value of Labor, in most Things that are manufactured. (Treatise on Government, P. 170.)

To distress this valuable Order of Men, because of their low and humble Station, would be a gross and dangerous Act of Injustice. If, discouraged and oppressed, they refuse to labour; a Scarcity of Provisions, a Famine must soon ensue, and involve all the Members of the State in one common Calamity. Far be it from us, far be it from the mild Nature of our Government to adopt the horrible Maxim, *The more wretched the common People, the more submissive and industrious they will be* It is dictated by a cruel Heart and not by sound Policy. But under every Kind of Government, if there is any Thing to fear, it is from a People whose Poverty has rendered them desperate
and

and have nothing more to lose†.

MANY of the lower Class of People, it must be owned, notwithstanding these Grievances, consume too much of their Time and Money in Alehouses. Though I have proved that these Houses are destructive to the Morals and Happiness of these valuable People and of Course very detrimental to the State ; yet I would not, by any Means, with the Author, &c. distress the Poor by incessant Toil and Labor. Far from it ! As the Prices of Provisions are raised, the Prices of Labor, the Poor Man's only Commodity, and the Treasury from which the Rich
are

† Essai Politique sur le Commerce par M. Melon.

are supplied with most of the Blessings they enjoy, should also be proportionably advanced. Let the great Farmers and other wealthy People remember, that though the effects of the Dearth fall, at first, very heavily upon the Poor; yet ultimately their Employers must feel the Weight of the Burden. For where the Price of Labor is not advanced in Proportion to the Prices of Provisions, the Poor-Rates must increase, and they are already double, and in many Places, three Times as high, as they were 20 or 30 years ago.

I would therefore wish to put it into their Power to live more comfortably, by advancing the Price of Labor, or by enabling them to purchase a
Plenty

Plenty of common Neceſſaries for themſelves and reſpective Families upon the eaſy Terms at which they were bought 20 or 30 Years ſince.

It would rejoyce my Heart to ſee the noble Wiſh of Henry the IVth. fulfilled, to ſee every Labourer and Manufacturer have a Fowl for his Sunday's Dinnerſ. The Poor of England in particular, will never be made good and uſeful Subjects by heavy Taxes and other Acts of Oppreſſion. Let them be encouraged by mild Laws with proper Rewards and Marks of Regard, and they will render this Kingdom rich and powerful.

BUT

§ Je veux qu'il n'y ait aucun Payſan dans mon Royaume, qui ne ſoit en Etat de mettre tous les Dimanches une Poule dans ſon Pot.

BUT Dearness of Provisions and immoderate Taxes, like extreme Necessity, destroy Industry by engendering Dispair. It was a fine Saying of old Marshal Schwerin to the King of Prussia, *That if he did not mean to keep Silesia, he taxed the People of that Country sufficiently; but if he did mean to keep it he taxed them too much*†.

I WILL close this Article with a Reflection from my excellent Friend at Woolwich.

PEOPLE of the middling Rank; who have large Families of Children, I think, at the present high Rates of Provisions, cannot afford to have meat often at
their

† Mr. Hume's Discourse on Taxes.
Mr. Hanway's Letters.

their Table. What then must the lower Sort of People do? I mean the industrious working Artificers of all Trades, and the Day-Laborers? They must certainly live on Bread alone. I wish Government would take the Affair into their serious Consideration, and put an effectual Stop to the growing Evils of engrossing, &c. which are become the Bane of this Country. The poor labouring Workmen of Woolwich Yard, are lending their helping Hand to so laudable an Undertaking; for they are now raising a Subscription among themselves for setting up a Butcher in that Town, and for supplying him, with Spirit, to keep down the Price of all Sorts of Meat. Would every Parish in this Kingdom take
such

such a Step for the Benefit of their Poor, the Kingdom in general would soon find the good Effect of it. I mean that they should lay out Part of the Poors Rate in building a Mill, and Bakehouse, erecting a Butchery, and buying Corn and Cattle to be there ground, baked, and killed under the Directions of the Overseers, or such others as the Vestry should appoint; and that Bread and Meat be delivered out to the Poor in such Quantities as their different Necessities required, once or twice in each Week. This would be better than giving them Money, which is commonly spent in Drink, and would be a great Means of bringing the Prices of all Provisions to a moderate Standard.

THO' the Failure of our Crops, by Means of unfavourable Seasons in 1766 and 7, together

U

gether with the other Reasons; which I have assigned for the Scarcity of Corn and animal Food, were the principal Causes of the Dearness of Provisions, yet there are other concurring Causes of powerful, and no less obvious Operation, such as the *plenty of Money, acquired

* Some of the Nobles and Gentry have enlarged their Estates by Oeconomy and Improvements.—Officers in the Army and Navy, Commissioners and Agents, many Persons, in the Service of the East India Company, have returned Home laden with the Riches, I will not say the Spoils, of the different Countries where they served. Many Merchants have acquired large Fortunes; some eminent Lawyers have raised great Estates, and even created Families; who have been enobled. Many Scriviners, Stock-jobbers, and the great Farmers, in a few Counties, have amassed considerable Sums of Money. But it is, by no Means, from hence deducible, that the Quantity of Money in the Nation is very great. The lucrative Trades of exporting Bullion to the East Indies, and Specie to America, the West Indies and Holland;—our Paper Credit;—the late Failures, &c. prove the very Reverse.

acquired by an extensive Trade and Commerce, &c.

THE Effects of Riches are a Decrease of the Value of Money and an Increase of the Consumption of Provisions; which must produce a Scarcity and enhance their Prices. The Quantities of Butchers' Meat now consumed is greatly beyond what they were formerly. The Farmers, 30 Years ago, did not eat any Meat oftener than once a Day, and in most Counties, not above once or twice a Week. But now their Servants, in some Parts of the Kingdom, breakfast, dine and sup upon it; and so do all the Labourers employed in the Time of Harvest.

IN every Country where there is great Plenty of Provisions, and but little Money, *there* Provisions must be cheap, that is, a great deal of them

will be exchanged for a little Money: on the Contrary, where there are but little Provisions in Proportion to the Number of Consumers, and a great Plenty of Money, or what passes for Money, there they will inevitably be dear, that is, a great Deal of Money must be given to purchase them.

IF we look back to the Reign of Elizabeth, and view the rich Towns and Prizes taken from the Spaniards, together with the amazing Increase of Trade and Commerce, occasioned by many useful Manufacturers, who were driven from Flanders by the Persecution of the Duke of Alva, to seek for an Asylum in this Land of Liberty, we shall find that the prodigious Quantity of Money, acquired by those Conquests and Increase of industrious People,

People, greatly decreased the Value of Money, and raised the Prices of Wheat and other Provisions in that Reign†.

THESE Effects will always follow their Causes in all Ages and in all Countries; and that they have done so the History of all Countries, in all Ages, sufficiently inform us.

I WILL now lay before the Reader a few Observations upon the Effects of our ‡ Taxes, so far

U 3 as

† See Thoughts on the Causes and Consequences of the present high Price of Provisions. Printed for Doddsley, 1767.

“ ‡ All Taxes says Mr. Locke, fall chiefly on
 “ the landed Interest—for every new Tax
 “ the Consumer must be raised one Quarter
 “ in the Price of the Things taxed. It is
 “ plain the Merchant, Tradesman, or Ma-
 “ nufacturer, neither can, nor will pay
 “ this: for, if he pays a Quarter more for
 “ Commodities than he did, he will sell
 “ them at a Price proportionably raised.
 “ The poor Labourer and Handicraft’s-
 “ man cannot: for he just lives from Hand
 “ to Mouth already, and all his Food,
 “ Cloathing, and Utensils, costing a Quar-

as they affect the Prices of Provisions.

THE Reasoning of the Author of the Causes of the Decline of Foreign Trade, upon this Subject is very striking, and deserves the most serious Attention of the Legislature.

BUT

“ ter more than they did before, either his
 “ Wages must rise with the Price of Things,
 “ to make him live; or else, not being able
 “ to maintain and bring up a Family by his
 “ Labour, he comes to the Parish, and then
 “ the Lands bear the Burthen a heavier
 “ Way. If the Labourer’s Wages be raised
 “ in Proportion to the increased Rates
 “ of Things, the Farmer who pays a Quarter
 “ more for Wages, as well as all other
 “ Things, whilst he sells Corn and Wool
 “ either at the same Rate, or lower, at the
 “ Market, (since the Tax laid upon it
 “ makes People less forward to buy) must
 “ either have his Rent abated, or else break
 “ and run away in the Landlord’s Debt;
 “ and so the yearly Value of the Land is
 “ brought down. And who then pays

BUT perhaps it may more sensibly affect, as well as more effectually prepare the Minds of the Generality of Readers, for a new Mode of Taxation, to lay before them the great Difference between the Prices of Things *before* and *since* a Tax was laid upon them.

It

“ the Tax at the Year’s End, but the
“ Landlord ? (a)

“ When a Nation is running to Decay
“ and Ruin. the Merchants and Monied-
“ man, do what you can, will be sure to
“ starve at last”. (b)

(a) *Considerations on lowering Interest,*
B. 9.

(b) *Idem. Vol. 2. P. 27.*

“ Taxes, however contrived, and out of

It appears, from a Manuscript, some Time since, in my Possession, of undoubted Authority, where the curious Author exhibits an accurate View of the Prices of Things and Labour, for a long Series of Years, in the latter Part of the last Century and the Beginning of this, that Salt in 1686, before the Duty was laid on it was bought in this County for 1s 2d. the Bushel, and in 1694, when chargeable with a Duty of 1d. $\frac{1}{2}$ a Gallon, at 2s. 8d. $\frac{1}{2}$. A farther Duty of 3d. $\frac{1}{2}$ a Gallon; the whole amounting to 3s. 4d. a Bushel, was imposed. 10 Gul. III.

ALL

“ whose Hand soever immediately taken,
 “ do, in a Country where the greatest Fund
 “ is Land, for the most Part, terminate

ALL these Duties were repealed 3 Geo. II. when Salt was again purchased in this County at 1s. 2d. a Bushel. But the Duties being laid on 5 George II and continued ever since, we pay 5s. per Bushel, though it is sold for 11d. $\frac{1}{2}$ at the Pan§.

CANDLES were bought at 3d. a Pound, before a Duty had been laid upon them. But at pre-

§ The increased Expence of supporting a Gentleman's Family, of 400*l* a Year, or under, occasioned by the Salt Duty, amounts to more in three Years than he could save by reducing a Shilling in the Pound by the Land-tax, *Mr. Pultney's Speech in 1732.*

“ upon Land. *Whatsoever the People is*
 “ *chiefly maintained by,* THAT the Govern-
 “ ment supports itself on. Nay, perhaps
 “ it will be found, that those Taxes which
 “ seem least to affect Land, will, most sure-
 “ ly of all others, fall the Rents.—And

present, they are advanced to
 7*d.* tho' the Duty paid to the
 Government is but 1*d.* a
 Pound.

SOPE,

“ though the Land-holder pays not this
 “ Tax, immediately out of his own Purse,
 “ yet his Purse will find by it a greater
 “ Want of Money, at the End of the Year
 “ ———— This is a settled and lasting Evil
 “ that will stick upon him beyond the pre-
 “ sent Payment” *Idem.*

“ In all Countries, whose Fund is Land,
 “ the Public Charge of the Government
 “ will be laid upon Land, and nothing
 “ else: There, at last, it will terminate.
 “ The Merchant, &c. do what you can,
 “ will not bear it, the Labourer cannot;
 “ and therefore the Land-holder must —
 “ Lay the Taxes how you will, (and that
 “ even in *Holland*, so famous for Trade) the
 “ Land every where bears the greater
 “ Share of the Burthen.

“ Whenever a Nation declines from its
 “ antient Prosperity, the Land-holder feels
 “ the first Symptoms of Disorder, then the
 “ Labourer, Artist, and Under-workman,

SOPE, Leather, and a long Train of other Things, &c. come under the same Predicament. The Yarmouth Shoemakers have addressed their Representatives, with a great deal of Propriety, upon the Injury done to their Trade and to the Public, by the advanced Price of Leather, occasioned by Taxes, Drawbacks on Exportation, &c. They set forth, among other Particulars, that, in about 30 Years Time, taxed Calve Skins are risen from 11*d.* a Pound to 22*d.* a Pound, and Hides from 6*d.* a Pound to 12*d.* &c.

MALT,

“ and, lastly the Trader, the monied Man,
 “ and the Merchant. In this consists the
 “ Difference; all suffer; some a little sooner,
 “ er, and others a little later.”

MALT, before an Excise was levied upon it, was made by the Farmers in general. And such as had not Conveniences, or did not chuse to make it, could exchange a Coomb of Barley for the same Measure of Malt, without paying any Thing in Lieu of that Exchange; which is now 5s. a Bushel.

“ BUT the Taxes laid upon
 “ the Poor are heavier, and of a
 “ more oppressive Nature than
 “ those laid upon most other
 “ Denominations of People of
 “ better Circumstances and
 “ higher Rank”.

SUPPOSING Barley, upon an Average, to sell at 8s. a Coomb, and that a Barrel of Ale, extracted from a Coomb of Malt,
 is

is 36 Gallons or 144 Quarts, Ale, of that Quality, will not stand the private Housekeepers; who brews his own Malt Liquor, in more than 4*d.* a Gallon, or a Penny a Quart, allowing him 4*s.* a Barrel for Firing and other Expences of Brewing, though such an Allowance is considerably too large.

BUT, as Matters are now circumstanced, Ale-Drinkers pay 3*d.* a Quart for all the Ale they drink at Public Houses; so that the Duties of 3*s.* a Coomb upon Malt, and the Excise of 8*s.* a Barrel upon Ale, together with the *primary* and † *secondary* Advances, occasioned by them, treble their original Prices to the Consumer.

If

† The Nature of the *primary* and *secondary* Advances are very well illustrated by the

If the Government advances a Commodity by a Tax, the Retail Purchaser will receive it at an Advance of not less than five Times the Tax.

WHY

Author of the Causes of the Decline of foreign Trade, *Mr. Dean Tucker*, and the Author of the Causes, &c.

“ To pay Interest for Money borrowed, and funded, Taxes must be considered as additional Burdens laid on every Comfort, and almost every Necessary of Life, before sufficiently loaded. These must unavoidably increase the Prices of them, and that in a much greater Proportion than is usually understood: for a Duty laid on any Commodity does not only add the Value of that Duty to the Price of that Commodity, but the Dealer in it must advance the Price double or treble Times that Sum; for he must not only repay himself the original Tax, but must have Compensation for his Losses in Trade by bad Debts, and Loss of Interest by his increased Capital. Besides this, every new Tax does not only

WHY our own Poor, should be loaded with these Duties and Excises, when, at the same Time, we grant a Bounty and Storage of 2s 9d. a Quarter for all the Malt, and a Drawback of

affect the Prices of the Commodity on which it is laid, but that of all others, whether taxed or not; and with which, at first Sight, they seem to have no Manner of Connection. Thus, for Instance, a Tax on Candles must raise the Price of a Coat, or a pair of Breeches; because, out of these, all the Taxes on Candles of the Woolcomber, Weaver, and Taylor, must be paid: A Duty upon Ale must raise the Price of Shoes; because from them all the Taxes upon Ale drank by the Tanner, Leatherdresser, and Shoemaker, which is not a little, must be refunded. No Tax is immediately laid upon Corn, but the Price of it must necessarily be advanced; because out of that, all the innumerable Taxes paid by the Farmer on Windows, Soap, Candles, Malt, Hops, Leather, Salt, and a Thousand others, must be repaid: so

of the Duty, with a Bounty of a Shilling a barrel, upon all the Ale we export, is a Mystery that will admit of no Solution upon the general Principles of Trade and Commerce.

THE

that Corn is as effectually taxed, as if a Duty by the Bushel had been primarily laid upon it; for Taxes, like the various Streams which form a general Inundation, by whatever Channels they separately find Admission, unite at last, and overwhelm the Whole. The Man, therefore, who sold Sand upon an Ass, and raised the Price of it during the late War, though abused for an Imposition, most certainly acted upon right Reasons; for though there were no new Taxes then imposed either on Sand or Asses, yet he found by Experience, that, from the Taxes laid on almost all other Things, he could neither maintain himself, his Wife, or his Ass, as cheap as formerly; he was therefore under a Necessity of advancing the Price of his Sand, out of which alone all the Taxes which he paid must be refunded. *Thoughts on the Causes, &c.*

THE Duty upon Coals is a very unequal and extraordinary Measure.

THE Citizens of * London pay 10s. the Inhabitants of the out Ports; who, in common with the Londoners, fetch them at a large Expence, pay 5s. a Chaldron Duty, while those; who have them in the Neighbourhood of the Mines, almost
X for

Thus I think it is evident, beyond all Doubt, that the Increase of Taxes must increase the Price of every Thing, whether taxed or not; and this is one principal Cause of the present extraordinary Advance of Provisions, and all the Necessaries of Life". *Thoughts on the Causes, &c.*

* There are more than 600,000 Chaldrons consumed annually in London.

for Nothing, are supplied with them without any Duty.

IN the Year 1750, large Coals, at the Pits, near Newcastle, were sold for 4s. 6d. a Chaldron, and small Ones for 3s. the Duty was 5s. the Freight to the Sea-ports of the County in which I live, 7s. 6d. and the Unloading 6d. a Chaldron.

THE whole Expence of 2 Chaldrons of Coals, one round or large, the other small; which is the constant Practice of the Merchants, amount to 1*l.* 13s. 6d. though upon an Average we pay 22s. a Chaldron.

1 Chal-

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1 Chaldron of round Coals,	0	4	6
1 Ditto, small, — —	0	3	0
Duty of 2 Chaldrons, —	0	10	0
Freight of 2 Chaldrons, —	0	15	0
Unloading of 2 Chaldrons	0	1	0
<hr/>			
The Price and Expences of 2 } Chaldrons to the Merchant,	1	13	6
<hr/>			
We pay for 2 Chaldrons,	2	4	0
<hr/>			
Therefore the Merchant's Gain } by 2 Chaldrons is	0	10	6

It appears from this imperfect View of our Taxes, that every Tax or Duty, laid upon any Commodity, advances the Price of that Commodity to the Consumer double, in some Cases treble, and in all Cases greatly beyond the Duty imposed upon it by the Government.

ALL the various Taxes, the Land-tax excepted, without the Addition of the *primary* and
X 2 *second-*

secondary Advances, do not amount to more than 2*s.* in the Pound upon the Incomes of Housekeepers, from 300 to 20*l.* a Year, according to several exact Calculations; which I have made, with great Care, and, I would hope, with some Degree of Accuracy. But the *primary* and *secondary* Advances make them amount to 13*s.*

THE Mode therefore of Taxation; which occasions these astonishing Advances should be altered.

No one should be exempted from a general Contribution for defraying the Exigencies of State, provided a Capitation or Tax could be contrived, so as to bear an exact Proportion to the Income of Individuals. 'Tis not the Tax we should blame, but

but the Mode of collecting and the bad Use made of it†.

IF instead of the present Variety of Taxes, Duties and Excises upon Malt, Malt Liquor, Coals, Soap, Candles, Salt, Leather, Windows, &c. there was but one Tax, suppose of 2s. in the Pound, upon every Man's real Income, whether it arises from real Estate, Service or Labour, and 4s. in the Pound, upon the Interest of all personal Estates, Stock in Trades, &c. Four Shillings for every 20s. of the Salaries of every Person, having any public Office or Employment, &c. § All
X 3 pay-

† Le n'est pas les Impôts qu' il blâme, mais la Façon de les percevoir. M. de Mirabeau. M. Pinto.

§ Properly speaking, Articles of Luxury only should be chargeable with Duties and Taxes, from the Payment of which

payable within the Year, and to be collected at 3*d.* in the Pound, every Man would buy the Necessaries of Life much cheaper than he does at present, loaded as they are by such a Variety of Taxes, Excises and Duties. He would save more than 7*s.* in the Pound of his annual Income.

Our Manufactures would be considerably cheaper, and our Trade of Course would be much more extensive. But as the Income of Individuals would be amazingly increased by it, the Surplus of the Revenue, after discharging the various Demands, for the Payment of which the

the Necessaries of Life ought to be exempted, because all Taxes upon them raise the Price of Labour, and advance the Value of Manufactures.

the Supplies should be granted by Government, would annually decrease the national Debt, the Interest of which, if the Principal is not, by Degrees, paid off, must destroy our Trade and hasten our Ruin.

As the National Debt is so enormous and portends such fatal Consequences, I will bestow a few Reflexions upon the Subject. Some of them are borrowed from a French† Writer of Eminence. Some are my own. The Former will, I am persuaded, be very acceptable; the Latter, will I hope, give no Disgust to the candid Reader.

THE *Sea*, says Lord Chancellor Bacon, is a Kind of universal Monarchy; which Nature seems to have given as a Portion

X 4

to

† *Les Intérêts des Nations de L' Europe, développés relativement au Commerce, Leide, 1766.*

to Great Britain ; which sooner or later will have the Treasures of the Indies at her Disposal. This great † Man ; who could read the Progress of the Sciences and trace their Rout in Futurity, could also foresee the prodigious Elevation of his Country. What should hinder England from having, at this Time, the Empire of the Sea and the universal Monarchy of ‡ Commerce ? At the End of the last War, Mr. Pitt declared in in the House of Commons, that *America had been conquered in Germany.* He might have added that by the Conquest of
America

† Les Interêts des Nations, &c. P. 200, &c.

‡ Sir W. Petty was of Opinion that it was not impossible, nay a very feasible Matter, for the King of England's Subjects to gain the universal Trade of the whole commercial World.

America England is become the most powerful Nation in Europe.

MANY Nations have attained to this Height of Grandeur ; which seems to realize the Idea of universal Monarchy. But this Excess of Power has always been the last Period of their Reign, of their Power, or rather the first of their Decline. If other States are now obliged to acknowledge the Grandeur of the British Nation, should she not dread this Kind of Homage, at the Time she makes her Power so formidable ? She has marked out to other Nations the Methods they should take to arrive at a relative Grandeur, and some other Nation will, without Doubt, recover the Balance, if England does
not

not constantly endeavour to abate the Effects which the Love of Liberty naturally suggests.

THIS Grandeur, this Power, so respectable, is not the Consequence of War. It is the Effect of an extensive Commerce, produced by Agriculture and flourishing Manufactures. England is a Proof of their being in an Error, who think that a commercial Nation is a weak one. The Commerce of England employs more than 7000 Vessels; and this Number will undoubtedly be considerably increased by the Acquisition of Senegal, a great Number of the Sugar Islands, Canada, Cape Breton, Florida, and a Settlement at Campeachy; which will enable her with the greatest Facility, almost entirely to secure
to

to herself the whole Commerce of America. No Nation has hitherto raised so prodigious a maritime Force.—And what Advantages has she not acquired, not only to support, but even to encrease it at Pleasure? *All the Treasures of India*, as the celebrated Chancellor Bacon foretold, near two Ages since, *are now at her Disposal*. The Excess of national Credit must either destroy, or raise this Nation to the highest Degree of Power.

CAN this Nation be ignorant that, by increasing continually the Public Debt, this brilliant Edifice, erected with so much political Wisdom and by the greatest Assiduity, must at last fall under the Weight of excessive Imposts, rendered unavoidable

able through the Excess of Public Credit? The *Funds, the borrowed Money*, by the Means of which England made such great Conquests in America; by the Means of which, with the English Soldiery, the King of Prussia and Prince Ferdinande, conquered the Armies of two powerful Empires, and those of France could not fail of losing to her a great Part of her antient Commerce in Europe, a Commerce the Consequence of her Industry. Will the Extension of her Marine and Conquests, recompense this Loss? Events; which no one can foresee, must decide this Question.

HIGH

HIGH Taxes have given a sensible and fatal Blow to all our Manufactures, by raising the Price of Labor and giving them an artificial Value; ‡ which obliged our Merchants, in 1759, to purchase Stuffs at Marseilles for the Levant, and determined the Spaniards ^a to prefer French Stockings and other Manufactures to those of England; and notwithstanding ^b severe Prohibitions and Penalties, Commerce finds out a Method of introducing rich Silks, Lace, &c. from France to our Nobility and Gentry, in large Quantities, because they are more in Taste, lighter, gayer and cheaper. To our Taxes Drawbacks, &c. may be ascribed our bad
 Suc-

‡ Il est certain que l'Excès des Impôts, &c. P. 204. ^a On lit dans, &c. 206, ^b 207, c 207.

Succes in the Herring Fishery,
 and other Branches of Com-
 merce.^b

THE English by the De-
 struction of their Woods, have
 given the Swedes, Russians and
 Spaniards, a vast Advantage in
 the Commerce of Timber and
 Iron. So that Ireland, formerly
 abounding in the finest Oaks,
 import them now from Nor-
 way, and are obliged to sell
 their raw Hides in Holland and
 Flanders for want of Bark to
 tan them.

THE low Prices of Freight
 enables Holland to flourish.
 The English cannot build and
 navigate their Ships, but at a
 vast Expence, on Account of
 their Taxes and Duties. * *

On

On these Accounts the Coals of Liege and France, though of an inferior Quality, are preferred to those of England.

THE East India Trade is no farther advantageous to the European Nations, engaged in it, than in Proportion to the Re-exportation of the East India Merchandizes, and their Importation of Goods that are necessary for their interior Consumption; which they are otherwise obliged to buy at second Hand.

OUR Silver is sent, though few of our Manufactures are carried to the East Indies. We receive little or Nothing from thence, besides Tea, Porcelain, and other Articles of Luxury*.

BUT

* The Money, sent abroad for Tea, &c. is buried in a Gulph from whence it

BUT the Legislature have taken this Trade into their Consideration. The Great Colbert asked an eminent Merchant, What shall we do to encourage and assist you ; to extend and establish Trade and Commerce?—The Merchant wisely replied, Lay no Restraint upon Trade—Leave us to ourselves.

† BUT the Trade, in which this
worthy

never returns: Nor is the whole Body of the *English* Nation advantaged by this Intercourse of Trade, but only a certain Number of Individuals. A Tax, therefore, on such *oriental Luxury*, (if the Expression may be used,) with Proviso it relieved the Poor from the Burthen of some other Impost upon the immediate Necessaries of Life, might be called in Effect, a Tax founded upon moral prudence and parental Kindness. *Mr. Harte.*

† Laissez—Pous faire—C'est la Réponse qui faite à M. Colbert par un fameux Negoriant, à qui ce grand Ministre demanda ses avis pour perfectioner & entendre le Commerce.

worthy Merchant was engaged,
was not a Monopoly.

THE 'Decline of our Trade
with the Colonies of North
America, is alarming. But they
are in a flourishing State, by
the Means of their extensive
Commerce, with the Sugar
Islands, the Subjects of Spain,
France, Portugal and Holland,
as well in America, as in Eu-
rope.

THE 'Increase of the various
Manufactures of other Coun-
tries, because we fabricate them,
at a greater Expence, must prove
fatal.

THE Balance of Trade is very
little in Favour of England,
but from the Commerce with
Portugal, and the clandestine
Trade in the West Indies, &c.

Y

To

To recover our former Superiority, acquired by the foreign Consumption of our Manufactures, is not impracticable. But the Dearness of Labor confines them, at present, to interior and Home-Consumption. And this Dearness of Labour will subsist, so long as the enormous Load of the national Debt, obliges the Government to continue the Imposts, at the Excess to which they have arrived. This Excess of Imposts destroys Population, Agriculture and Manufactures, increases the Number of Poor, whose Support is to England an annual Expence of more than two Millions. *a*

THE sole, the only Remedy to these Evils, so great and so real, and the only solid Foundation

dation that England can give to its Power, must arise from the Extinction of the Public Debt, &c. *a*

Our Settlements at Senegal, the Author of *the Interests*, &c. apprehends, furnish us with the Means of paying this national Debt, by the Conquest of Bambuck, a Country whose Mines of Gold are infinitely richer than those of Brasil, Mexico or Peru.

WE are informed, by this Writer, that a Factor of the French India Company, named *Campagnon*, is the only European known, who has ever arrived at this rich Kingdom. He has given a full and exact Description of it, as well as of its

Y 2 rich

rich Mines. Two Directors of the India Company, *M. Depremeril* and *David*, particularly charged with the Affairs of Senegal, have vouched for the Intelligence, Capacity and Fidelity of this Factor; which gives great Weight to this Relation.

BUT a Communication with Bambuck, and the Countries bordering upon the Niger, Gambia, and the other great Rivers of Africa, would open a Passage to richer and more inexhaustible Mines, than the golden ones of Africa, or America. It would procure, by a fair and honorable Commerce, without the Aids of Conquest and Ufurpation; which are contrary to the Laws of Nations and Humanity, and a Disgrace to all civi-

civilized Countries, an immense exclusive Trade for our Manufactures, and extend the Sale and Consumption of the various Merchandizes of Europe.

NOTWITHSTANDING the various Schemes that have been proposed by different Writers for paying off the national Debt, to extend our Trade and Commerce seems to be the most rational, infallible Means of doing it, provided we observe a proper Oeconomy in the Administration of the various Monies that are collected for the Uses of Government.

THE Frugality, Oeconomy and Morals of the Swiss have rendered the Canon of Berne very rich, though the Soil is barren, and the Country with-

out Sea-ports, Manufactures and Mines. A Venetian Embassador once told Cardinal Richlieu, That they wanted nothing to render France rich and happy, but to know how to lay out with Propriety, what they squandered away in dissipation and Folly. This Observation is equally applicable to *England*.

Now, the Balance of our Trade with Russia, Sweden, Denmark, Poland, Germany, Holland, Flanders and France, is greatly against us, prudent and benevolent Methods should be taken to extend our Trade in Africa, from whence we may derive incredible Advantages, by exchanging our Manufactures at a fair Price for the Gold, Gums, Teeth, and other raw Materials of that Country. By
these

these Means we should not only enrich ourselves, without offending any of the Powers of Europe, but deliver these unhappy People from Tyranny and bless them with the Advantages and Happiness of more enlightened Communities.

THE Portuguese are the only Europeans; who have established Settlements, and who carry on a Commerce in Competition with the Arabians, at Sofala, at Mosambique, and Melinda upon the Eastern Coast of Africa. This Commerce is so rich, especially at Mosambique, that it is called the Peru and Chili of the Portuguese. They pretend that it was from thence that Solomon, and Hiram, the king of Tyre, drew their prodigious

Y 4 Riches;

Riches ; and that this Port of Africa is the celebrated Ophir. It is there they receive the Gold of Monomotapa, in Exchange for the Silks and Stuffs of Asia and Europe.

THE Portuguese first discovered Monomotapa, upon whose Monarch they have bestowed the Title of *The Emperor of Gold*. *Faria* pretends that at Massapa they found an Ingot of Gold of 12000 Ducats, and an other of Four Hundred Thousand. It is, however, certain, that they have imported immense Quantities of Gold from thence, in Lieu of their Stuffs, Necklaces, Beads, and other Merchandizes of little Value ; and they might derive still greater Advantages, if this Branch of Commerce was better cultivated.

I WILL close this Article, upon the Means of paying off the national Debt, by opening an extensive Commerce into the interior Parts of Africa, with a few Reflections upon the pyrat-ical States of Barbary ; which so far as they are borrowed from the Author of *Les Interêts*, &c. are just and striking.

THE Coasts of Barbary might be covered with flourishing Towns by Population and Industry ; they might present to the Commerce of Europe a great Variety of valuable Commodities and an extensive Opening for our Manufactures ; if the Inhabitants of these Coasts knew any Profession but that of infesting the Seas with their Pyracies. This immense Extent of Country ; which is extremely fertile, might be of the greatest

est Utility to industrious and commercial Nations, to which it is at present very inimical. Now that the Turkish Dominions are laid waste and convulsed by the Forces of the Russian Empire, is the favourable Time, the critical Moment for curbing the Insolence of these pyratrical States. All the Powers of Europe should unite, tho' not to destroy their naval Armaments, yet to oblige the Ottoman Porte, together with them, to give Hostages for our Security from any future Hostilities. These Nations, forced to renounce for ever this criminal War, would employ themselves in the Cultivation of their Lands, and, by an honest Industry, acquire Riches, with the Conveniences of Life, to satisfy their Luxury,
by

by Ways the most agreeable and conformable to human Nature.

A PEACEABLE and lawful Commerce, would soon substitute among the Inhabitants of this vast and extensive Country, soft and gentle Manners instead of Ferocity and a Disposition for Theft and Robbery. They would become a more happy People: their Lands, naturally fertile, cultivated according to our superior Skill in Agriculture, would furnish them with an Abundance of Productions;—other Improvements would be introduced;—Population would be increased; and they would be enriched by a flourishing Commerce.

To make Settlements in this Country, not with hostile, but with the friendly Intentions of civilizing them, and reviving in Africa the Times of the
Car-

Carthaginians, the Syphaxes and Massiniffa's, would crown our auspicious Monarch and his honest Minister, with Honor and Immortality, and be the greatest Glory of this Age and Country.

THOUGH Industry and Manufactures, Trade and Commerce are the true Sources of Riches; which are great Blessings, when they are employed in furnishing Mankind with the Necessaries and Conveniences, with the Elegancies and Refinements of Life; yet that Riches do not introduce excessive Luxury should be one of the great Ends of Government. For what the Poet observes of a City, enriched by Manufactures, and improved by wise Regulations and Laws, may be
ap.

plied to all Countries when they are falling under the Dominion of Luxury and Dissipation.

Postquam Caput ar-
dua Cælo
Extulit, immensis crevit Opima Opibus.
Cultus vincit Opes, & Cultum Gratia Re-
rum,
Quam bene! Si Luxus non Comitetur
Opes.

THE most sensible Part of Mankind, from the earliest Times, have considered Luxury as the Source of the Corruption of Manners, and other Evils,—as the Forerunner, and principal Cause of the Declension and Ruin of States.

THE History and Experience of all Ages demonstrate this Truth. If such are the fatal Consequences of Luxury, let us take a View of the Progress it has

has made in this Kingdom. All Ranks of People are poisoned with it in the Metropolis. And, in Consequence of the easy Communication lately created between the different Parts of the Kingdom, by the Means of Turnpike Roads, and an Inland Navigation, our other Cities and great Towns, most Country Places, though remote from London, are not much better circumstanced. The Inhabitants fall into destructive Schemes of Life, in Proportion to their Opportunities. The Fashions, Manners and Pleasures of the Capital have been propagated every where ; and almost every Town and Village now vies with our great Emporium in all Kinds of Expensive Dissipation and Amusement. This enervates and debilitates,
destroys

destroys virtuous Industry, and brings on Poverty, Dependence and Venality*. Our Houses, and Furniture, and, indeed, every Thing that can be named, confirm this Observation.

A TASTE for building, under proper Restrictions, is laudable. Palaces, and Churches, with other public Edifices, may be considered as Monuments of the Munificence and Piety of their Founders. To erect great Houses; Planting and other Improvements, are undoubtedly innocent and afford much rational Amusement to the Mind. They are Advantages to the Public, in general, and furnish many poor and industrious Families

* Vid. Dr. Price's Supplement, P. 360.

milies with Employment and common Neceſſaries.

PERHAPS it would not be difficult to prove, where the benevolent and generous Patriot is poſſeſſed of an immense Eſtate, without a numerous Iſſue, that were the ſame Money ; which is expended in erecting a magnificent Structure, to be laid out in the moſt careful Manner, in charitable Uſes, it would not be much more for the Public Good.

MOST of our Purſuits, conſidered philoſophically, may be found vain enough ; yet, if we were not to be put in Motion by a Thouſand little Inducements, with which we meet in Life, our Virtue might be fixed,

as

as Mr. Pope says; but it is fixed as in Frost.

ON the other Hand, where stately Fabricks are erected, whether by Peers or Commoners, even of considerable Fortunes, when their Families are large, 'tis a dangerous Excess of Luxury.

EUGENIO took Possession of 12,000*l.* a Year, a good old House, and 80,000*l.* in Cash, upon the Decease of his late Father. He pulled down the old family Seat, and has built a superb Edifice in the Grecian Style. The Shell took off his Cash——The Furniture has obliged the noble Peer to mortgage his Estate for 70 or 80, some say 100,000*l.* which would have made a handsome Provision

Z

for

for his younger Children, and enabled him to support the Dignity and Independance handed down to him by his Ancestors.

Felix quem faciunt, &c.

BUT Luxury is become general.

To observe the Furniture of our Houses—the gilded Ceilings, the Hangings of India Paper, rich Silk Damasks, Tapestry and Velvet; the large French and Venetian Glasses; the Marble Pillars, to say Nothing of Marble Slabs, Tables of Porphyry, Granite, Agate, &c. The carved Chairs and Couches, gilt and covered with Damasks,—the Turkey Carpets, &c. the Paintings of Raphael M. Angelo, Carracci, Titian,
and

and other Masters of the Italian and Flemish Schools, not to mention the Prints of Poilly and Strange—the massy Services of Plate, and expensive Sets of Porcelain, how are we seized with Wonder and Amazement !

WITH what Numbers of made Dishes ; with what Varieties of Fish, Flesh, Fowls and Game ; and yet one can hardly say with what Plenty are the Tables covered !

THE different Sorts of Wine from France, Portugal and Spain, from the Madeiras, the Grecian Islands and Hungary, are scarcely to be enumerated. Wine, with Punch made of French Brandy, Rum and Arrack, are drank to a Degree of

Profusion by People to whose Ancestors their very Names were hardly known. The Monies laid out for Chocolate, Coffee and Tea, amount to immense Sums.

THE Modes of Dress, as well as those of Housekeeping, are Articles of incredible Expence. Here the Ladies are beyond Description, extravagant.

THEY have Spring and Summer, Autumn and Winter Silks, Brocades, Gold and Silver Stuffs, some of which are bought at the enormous Price of 30 Guineas a Yard. The Birth-day Suit is never worn a second Time. Their Heads are adorned with Dresden and Mechlin Lace, enriched with Jewels of immense Value. Large Estates
hang

hang upon their † Ears. How brilliant are their Diamond Necklaces and Stomachers, their Watches and other Trinkets;—their very Buckles are set with Pearls and precious Stones !

THE [a] Play-houses, the Opera-houses, [b] Masquerades, Vaux-hall and Ranelagh, the
Z 3 Pan-

† Non satis est Mulieribus Infania, nisi bina ac terna Patrimonia Auribus perpendissent. Senec. de Beneficiis.

[a] York, Bristol, Norwich, Liverpool, Hull, and Bath, have their Playhouses under the Sanction of Government, not to mention an incredible number of Comedians, as they call themselves, who are supported in their Luxury and Extravagance, by the Contributions of all Degrees of People in every Part and Corner of the Kingdom.

[b] The Money squandered away at the last Masquerade was computed to be 10000*l*. though Tradesmen go unpaid, and our industrious Poor are starving.

Pantheon, Mrs. Cornely's, the London Tavern, &c. are crowded.

GUADAGNI is paid 2000*l.* a Season for Singing, and Madam Heinel half the Sum for Dancing. The Pleasures enjoyed at the other Houses of Entertainment, are purchased at a most extravagant Rate. The Time consumed, the Sums of Money lost in Gaming, are beyond all Degrees of Credit. This Vice occasions the Loss of Health and Reputation, is the Source of Debauchery and criminal Impurities of every Kind, with other Evils fatal to Individuals and imminently detrimental to the State.

—————Facilis Descensus Averni,
 Noctes atque Dies patet atri Janua Ditis;
 Sed revocare Gradum, superasq; evadere ad
 Auras,
 Hic Labor, hoc Opus est. Pauci quos
 æquus amavit
 Jupiter, aut ardens evexit ad Æthera Vir-
 tus,
 Diis Geniti potuere——*Virg.*

IF these enormous Extrava-
 gancies were confined to Per-
 sons of the higher Stations in
 Life, the Consequence would
 not be so very alarming. But
 the Generality of People, with-
 out Exception, far exceed the
 Line of Prudence, by imitating
 their Superiors in every Kind of
 Luxury.

WE learn from History that
 in the Reign of Henry VIII.
 the King was the only Person;
 who kept a Coach. The No-
 bles, and Commons, walked to
 to their respective Assemblies.

BUT

BUT as Riches flowed in upon us, by the Means of Trade and Commerce, Persons of Family and Distinction, began by Degrees, to keep their Coaches. This Article of Luxury, however, was long confined to Families of Rank and Fortune. Not more than 25 Years since, the Scotch Members travelled to the Metropolis on Horseback. But now, People in general, from Four to One Hundred Pounds a Year, roll either in Chaifes or Chairs. So that we have many Thousands of Coaches, Landaus, Chariots, Postchaifes, Vis-a-vis, Whiskies, Chairs and other Carriages.

FIFTY Years ago, Tea, Coffee and Chocolate, were never tasted, except in great or rich Families. But now the Articles

ticles of Tea and Sugar, are in common ‡ Use. We send to the East and West Indies to furnish our Poor with their Breakfasts.

THE Wives of Day-laborers, and the very Alms-house Women drink Tea twice a Day. In some Counties the Gleaners have their Tea, at stated Hours, in the open Field.

“ ONE

‡ I have been well assured; says the ingenious Mr. Hart, by one of the most experienced Judges of Trade in *England*, *that as much superfluous Money is expended on Tea, Sugar, &c. as would maintain 4 Millions more of Subjects in Bread.*

The Calculation given to me was a very moderate one, the Tea being only charged at 5s a Pound, and the Sugar at 7d.

One Million of Pounds of Tea, at least, (not including contraband Tea) is drank annually in England, and Eight Millions of Pounds of Sugar are consumed with it

“ ONE cannot help reflect-
 “ ing on the surprising Fate
 “ and Revolutions of King-
 “ doms: how Rome, once the
 “ Mistress of the World, the
 “ Seat of Arts, Empire and
 “ Glory, now lies sunk in
 “ Sloth, Ignorance and Pover-
 “ ty; enslaved to the most
 “ cruel, as well as to the most
 “ contemptible of Tyrants,
 “ *Superstition and religious*
 “ *Imposture*: while this remote
 “ Country, antiently the Jest
 “ and Contempt of *the po-*
 “ *lite Romans*, is become
 “ the happy Seat of Li-
 “ berty, Plenty, and Letters;
 “ flourishing in all the Arts
 “ and Refinements of civil Life;
 “ yet running, perhaps, the
 “ same Course, which *Rome*
 “ itself

“ itself had run before it; from
 “ virtuous Industry to Wealth;
 “ from Wealth to Luxury;
 “ from Luxury to an Impati-
 “ ence of Discipline and a Cor-
 “ ruption of Morals; till by
 “ a total Degeneracy and a Loss
 “ of Virtue, being grown ripe
 “ for Destruction, it falls a
 “ Prey, at last, to some hardy
 “ Oppressor, and with the Loss
 “ of Liberty, losing every Thing
 “ that is valuable, sinks gradu-
 “ ally again into its original
 “ Barbarism†.”

EVERY State is born with the
 Seeds of its Destruction. And
 those Seeds are often ripened
 by

† See *Dr. Middleton's Life of Tully*,
 Vol. I. P. 494.

by the Influence of Power and Riches. If Sparta and Rome perished, what State can hope to remain for ever? England will certainly undergo the Fate of preceding Nations. England at the Pinacle of her Glory has Need of much Precaution to arrive at a good old Age.

BUT let us neither despair; nor impeach Providence. The Time may be at a great Distance.

*Tu ne quæsieris, scire nefas,
quem mihi, &c.*

OUR Situation, however, is undoubtedly critical, especially if we consider that the Funds, a standing Army with the Militia, commanded by a select Body of Gentlemen, a formidable Navy, and

a vast Dominion, now acquiring in the Indies, have thrown an immense Weight into the Power of the Crown. A Militia in the Time of Peace, properly established, should, agreeably to the End originally proposed, lessen the Number of our standing Forces; which, though kept up at an enormous Expence, are unconstitutional;—but yet from a Change in the Policy of other Nations, Necessity, superior to all Law, requires, to a Degree, some well disciplined Troops for our Defence and Safety.

A NUMEROUS and superior Fleet, styled the wooden Walls of Britain; has been long considered as our chief and principal Defence. So long as we are possessed of the Trident of Neptune,

tune, we shall sway the Sceptre of the World. But this powerful Marine should not be supported at an excessive Expence, nor by any oppressive Means

PRESSING would be unnecessary, were the Prizes, taken in the Time of War, more equally divided ; and a proper Number of the Men discharged after four Years' Service, or continued upon half Pay, and suffered, having been previously registered, to go into the Merchants' Service, &c. A Prince, circumstanced as we are, who disregarded the Sacredness of Oaths and the Welfare of his People, if he chose to secure a Majority in Parliament, by the Means of Places, Pensions and Honors, might easily destroy the Constitution
of

of this Country, and render himself as arbitrary and despotic as any Monarch in Europe.

THE Security of our Liberties and Properties, therefore, principally depends upon the patriotic Virtues of our Sovereign.

A GREAT Number of real Grievances, though by no Means the peculiar Disgrace and Reproach of the present Reign or Administration, have been exhibited in the Course of this Work. Remedies have also been proposed for their Redress.

WHAT Pleasure and Satisfaction; what solid Glory and Happiness would our amiable
King

King enjoy from the Application of these, or some other Remedies more adequate to such impending Evils.

THE present auspicious Minister it is to be hoped, will relish and approve, adopt and countenance any Measures that shall seem calculated for the Removal of national Grievances.

WE read with Admiration the elevated Sentiments of Henry IV. where he greatly said, " But I must confess that I am unwilling to die, before I have raised this Kingdom to the Splendor I have proposed to myself, and before I have shewn my People that I love them
like

like my Children, by discharging them from a Part of the Taxes, that have been laid on them, and by governing them with Gentleness*.

To a Minister; who shall act upon these Principles, will, with Propriety and Justice be offered the Tribute paid to the Memory of Sully.—*The Splendor of this great Minister's Character is still brilliant, and never will be eclipsed in the Eyes of Posterity†.*

NOTHING could so much redound to the Credit of an Administration, nor so effectually conciliate the Minds of his Subjects to the Government of a Sovereign.

A a

THE

* Memoirs of Sully.

† M. Pinto, from whose ingenious *ESSAI SUR L'* I have borrowed several Hints, and a few Reflections. If I have not always acknowledged the Obligations, 'tis because I only minuted down a Word to remind me of a striking Thought, or the Substance of a Passage without a proper Reference.

THE inexhaustible Treasury of a patriotic King, the Security and Glory of a great Minister are the warm Affections of a free and brave People.

IN antient Times the Praises and Acclamations, the Love and Esteem of their fellow Subjects were considered by Statesmen and Heroes, as the greatest Rewards that could be conferred upon them for the eminent Services they had done their Country.

P. ÆMILIUS, out of the Spoils taken from *Perseus*, carried into the Treasury such immense Sums of Gold and Silver, that the Romans enjoyed an entire Exemption from Taxes, for a long Course of Years.

TULLY pays him this just and fine Compliment upon the Occasion;—*But he carried Nothing*

thing into his own House, except immortal Glory†!

KINGS, as well as Individuals, seek for Happiness and Aggrandizement at a Distance, when, frequently the one and the other have them at their Gates.

To live at Peace‡ with their Neighbours, to maintain internal Order and Tranquillity, by the Means of a virtuous Industry, infallibly productive of an extensive Commerce, are the only Means of augmenting Power and Happiness.

SUCH a Plan of Government must make us happy and respectable.

A 2

Ex-

† *At hic nihil Domum suam præter Memoriam Nominis immortalem detulit. Cic. de Offic.*

The Case of the Five Millions, &c.

‡ *The the Scriblers of the Day loaded his MAJESTY and the MINISTRY with the most scandalous Abuse, for not breaking with SPAIN and DENMARK, they merited the highest Praises for their pacific and prudent Conduct.*

EXCESSIVE LUXURY is† ruinous to every Community;—though seeming to protect Industry, it corrupts the Morals, and opens the Flood-gates of Profligacy, from whence must ensue the Ruin of Kingdoms.

To stem the Torrent of this Abuse of Riches, a very just Definition of Luxury, requires superior Art and Power. But though Luxury is, if not a necessary, yet an unavoidable Evil, we may derive some Advantages from it. Sumptuary Laws, indeed, prohibiting a fair and proper Expence, which ought to be permitted to every one, in Proportion to his Estate and Rank,

† *The immense Riches, acquired by the Conquest of Africa and the East, introduced Luxury and an innumerable Train of other Vices; which ended in the Ruin of the Roman State. The immense Treasures; which, after the Battle of Plataea, fell into the Hands of the Lacedæmonians, inspired them with a Passion for Luxury, the principal Cause of the Decay and final Destruction of Sparta.*

Rank, would be productive of many Evils ; but to restrain Luxury, by Taxes, would be attended with great Benefits to Society.

To lay Taxes on all Articles of Luxury, and every immediate Cause of Diffipation and unnecessary Expence, would be attended with many Advantages to the Community.

No reasonable Objection could be made to such Taxes. For they would be paid *voluntarily* and not necessarily, and even the Extravagance, and Follies of Mankind might by this Means be made subservient to the public Good.

PLAY-HOUSES, Opera-houses, Assemblies, Masquerades, all Places of Diversions, and all Performers at such Places, from Almack's, the Pantheon, &c.

A 3 down

down to those of Market Towns and Villages, Public Gardens, Puppet Shews, Horse Races, Cock-fightings, Bear and Bull Baitings, Cards, Gaming of every Kind, Wheel-Carriages, Swords, Livery Servants, Packs of Hounds, Pointers, Spaniels, Greyhounds, and Frizeurs, are Objects of Taxation†.

SUCH Taxes would operate beneficially, would influence the Conduct of Thousands, by restraining them from running into Expences ; which are not only unnecessary, but which are, by no Means, suited to their Circumstances and Incomes.

Fa-

† *Upon this Mode of Taxation, there are many sensible Hints in a Letter to Lord North; printed for Dilly, in 1770, Price 1s.*

Fashion and Example are greatly an Overmatch for Reason and Oeconomy: and 'tis not the least, among the Acts of Human Policy, for a State to constrain its Subjects, by prudential Laws to act more wisely, and to be happier than they would be, if left intirely to the Direction and Dominion of their own Passions,

IF all our Taxes were levied with this View, as far as the Nature and Fitnes of Things would permit, perhaps there would be less Room for all that Clamour and Complaint; which now so generally prevail†.

A 4

† See Mr. Wimpey's excellent Essays just published.

ONE of the Sages of Antiquity says that a Prince ; who would change the morals of a State has not a very difficult Task†. Let him point out the Road by his own Conduct, through which he

† Ουδεν δει πονων, εδε τινος παμπολλω χρονω, τω τυραννω, μεταβαλειν βελη-θεντι πολεως ηθη, &c.

Platonis de Leg. Lib. IV. P. 711. Interpret. Serrani 1578. The late learned and ingenious Dr Forster ; who obliged the World with an Edition of Five of Plato's Dialogues, with Ficinus's Translation, and many Emendations of his own, bestows the Epithet of *most celebrated* upon the Paris Edition of Plato's Works, printed in 1758. But M. Grou ; who has translated Plato's Republic, his Treatise of Laws, and the Epinomis or Appendix to them, says—Cet Ouvrage n'a point encore paru en notre Langue, que je sçache ; & je ne crois pas qu' on puisse l'entendre ni le suivre dans les Versions de Ficin & Jean de Serres.

he would have his Subjects
 walk, whether to Virtue or to
 Vice; let him approve and re-
 compence certain Actions; let
 him express a Dislike to others,
 and cover with Ignominy those;
 who refuse to obey the Laws;
 —let his Administration be
 mild and equitable, the People
 will soon conform to the Inclinations
 of a Personage possessed
 of such powerful Means of Per-
 suasion. There is no Method
 of reforming the Manners of a
 Community so inviting and ea-
 sy as the Example of those;
 who are vested with Authority.
 A Prince, who will thus take
 the Lead, cannot but be the
 Cause of infinite good and in-
 numerable Blessings to Mankind.
 Happy must he be, if there is so
 amiable

amiable a Personage upon Earth;
happy those who receive the
wise Instructions that flow from
his Lips.

EVERY Day is a Witness of
the prodigious Force of this
Motive. And the Reason why
the Example of Superiors has
such Influence upon the Minds
and Conduct of their Inferiors
is very obvious.

THE Latter generally apprehend that those of superior Stations, on Account of their Rank and Education are furnished with greater Degrees of Knowledge and Wisdom; they think therefore that it is their Interest and Honour; they con-

consider it as a Proof of their own nice Discernment to copy after Guides of such distinguished and fashionable Principles.

THUS it is that the Example of the Great encourages ; thus it is that Numbers give a Sanction to Vice and Folly. But the Conclusion is rash and fatal to a State where the Legislature disregards the Observation and Practice of moral and religious Duties. If Princes, Lawgivers and Men of Fortune would therefore prevail upon Mankind to obey the Laws ; which they have enacted, they should exhibit a good Example: Their Conduct should be uniformly wise : For Men will pay but little Regard to Laws
and

and Precepts, if they are not recommended and enforced by the Practice of Virtue.

TULLY and Sallust have observed that the public and private Virtues; which enabled the Romans to conquer and give Laws to so many Nations, were produced by the upright Conduct of a few great Men.

THE King, Nobility and Gentry ; who shall thus, by making their Lives a Transcript of the Laws, influence the Conduct of the lower Classes of People, cannot but communicate infinite good and innumerable Blessings to Mankind. Their Inferiors admiring the Wisdom, Goodness and Happiness of such amiable Personages will derive Prudence, Virtue and Happiness, and their Country
Riches

Riches and Power from such respectable Examples.

BUT it has been a received Opinion, in all Ages, that the Assistance of Heaven is necessary to enact and give Sanction to Laws for the Government of Mankind.

THE Passions are implanted in human Nature, for wise and excellent Purposes, provided they are properly directed and regulated. But Reason, in most men, unassisted by heavenly Influence, is insufficient for the Direction and Government of these Affections, naturally much too prone to Levity and irregular Pursuits. To discard Religion then is to remove the Curb from our Passions; which, unrestrained by
religious

religious Motives, would overpower our reasoning Faculties, and render Man the most cruel and hurtful Animal to his Species that God created. “ And
 “ were it not for natural Forms
 “ and Habits of Religion,
 “ Men would soon grow wild,
 “ lose their Humanity, become
 “ fierce, prey upon one another and do whatever else the
 “ worst of Savages do†.”

SATURN, knowing that human Nature was not capable of governing Men with an absolute Authority, without abandoning them to Licentiousness and Injustice, established in Kingdoms, by Way of Chiefs and Kings, not Men but Genij, Intelligences of a Nature more
 divine

† Wollaston, P. 124.

divine and excellent than ours.
 —By their Means Peace and Modesty ; Liberty and Justice reigned upon Earth, and procured happy Times, free from Trouble and Discord. Zoroastre said that his Laws were drawn up under the Direction, and by the Inspiration of his *Genius*. This Account deviates not from Truth, in that it gives us to understand that there is no Remedy for the Vices and Evils of States, which have not Gods, but mortal Men to govern them†.

Ju-

† Γνωστων ὁ κρονος ἀρα ως ἀνθρώπεια
 φουσις, &c.

Plat. de Leg. L. 4. P. 713.

JUPITER, or Minos, [*a*] inspired by Justice, according to the Accounts, handed down by the Poets, instituted a System of Laws for the Use of the Cretans.*b*

LYCURGUS, who modelled the State of Lacedæmon, confirmed his Laws with the Authority of the Delphian § Oracle.

MANY other Legislators have taken the same Method to give a Sanction to their Laws. *Mnevis*

a Styled by Homer Διος μαθητας, the Companion or Disciple of Jupiter, and of whom Horace says
——Et Jovis Arcanis Minos admissus.

Plutarch, in the Life of *Demetrius*, makes a fine Remark upon this Description of *Minos*. *Homer*, says he, has not honored with the glorious Title of the Disciple of *Jupiter*, the greatest Warrior or Oppressor, or a renowned Tyrant; but the Man famous for his Justice and Probity, a Legislator and Benefactor to Mankind. *Dacier*.

§ *Lycurgus quidem, qui Lacedæmoniorum Rempublicam temperavit, Leges suas Auctoritate Apollinis Delphici confirmavit. Cicero. De Divinat. L. 1.*

Mnevis, King of *Egypt*, ascribed his to *Mercury* or *Teutates*; *Zamolxis*, the Thracian Law-giver, to the Goddess *Vesta*; *Zoroastres*, to his *Genius*; *Numa Pompilius*, to the Nymph *Egeria*, whom he consulted in the Forest of *Arica*; *Pythagoras* gave out that he went down to the Kingdom of *Pluto*; *Epimenides*, that he had slept Fifty Years in a Cave in the Island of *Crete*, and, undoubtedly, all of them, after *Moses*; who had received the Tables of the Law upon Mount *Sinai*, with such Pomp and Solemnity, that the Tradition thereof had spread among all Nations*.

ARISTOTLE says that it is the
Work of GOD; who governs
B b the

* *Banier's Mythology of the Antients explained, &c.* Vol. 3. P. 484, 5.

the Universe, to maintain Order in a populous † State.

THE superior Excellence of the civil Government of the Romans§, the extensive Power and long Continuance of their Empire, have been ascribed by antient as well as modern Writers to their awful Fear of the Gods‡.

THESE Attestations of Heathens, concerning the Importance

† Οδὲ λιβανὺν ὑπερβαλλὼν ἀριθμὸς, εὐδυναταὶ μετεχειν τάξεως. Θείας γὰρ δὴ τὸ τοῦ δυναμὸς ἐργον, ἥ τις καὶ τοῦδε συνεχει τοῦ παν. Aristotelis de Repub. Lib. 7. P. 430 Lutet. Paris, 1619.

§ *Populum late regem.* VIRG.

‡ Polyb. Lib. 6. P. 192. Ciceron. de Harusp. Resp.——Reflections on the Rise and Fall of antient Republics.—P. 295, &c. The spiritual and temporal Liberty of the Subjects of England, by Dr. Ellys, late Lord Bishop of St. David's. Vol. II. P. 283.

tance of Religion to a State, merit the Attention of Christians; who are guided and assisted in their Inquiries by the clear Light of the Gospel. If the Principles of a Heathen Morality; if the vague Belief of the Existence and superintending Power of the Heathen Deities were thought so necessary to promote the Happiness of Kingdoms; how much more sure and infallible a Method is it to instruct Mankind in the sublime Articles of the Christian Faith, and the more refined Duties of the Christian Religion!

IN Vain are all our Improvements in Commerce, Manufactures and Agriculture, if, in the Nature of Things, and in the

B b 2 righteous

righteous Judgment of God, we are upon the Brink of that dreadful Abyfs into which the Romans precipitated themselves through a Contempt of the primary Truths of Religion and Morality*.

PRIDE, which shews itself in Equipage, Dress, and external Pomp; Oppression exercised by encroaching on the Properties and Privileges of others; Pleasure and Intemperance, Riot and Excess, every kind of Luxury, and a criminal Love of this World are, it must be owned, frequently the Fruits of an overgrown Fortune.

So that there is great Propriety and Beauty in the Aphorism, grounded on Reason and Experience, *It is easier for a Camel*

* See Dr. Oswald's *Appeal to Common Sense*, &c.

mel to go through the Eye of a Needle than for a rich Man to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. For an opulent Fortune may prevent a good Life; hinder Mens' embracing Christianity, or obstruct their Entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven.

BUT though it be a Work of the greatest Difficulty for a Politician to apply Remedies to prevent the Abuse of Wealth; which is attended with such fatal Consequences; though human Means and Persuasions cannot take off Mens' Hearts from the Love of this World; yet with God all Things are possible. Heavenly Wisdom can direct and assist us to make a proper Use of Riches, to the
be-

beneficent End of lessening the Miseries of our distressed Fellow-creatures. This Application of them is represented in Scripture as an infallible Means of divine Favour.

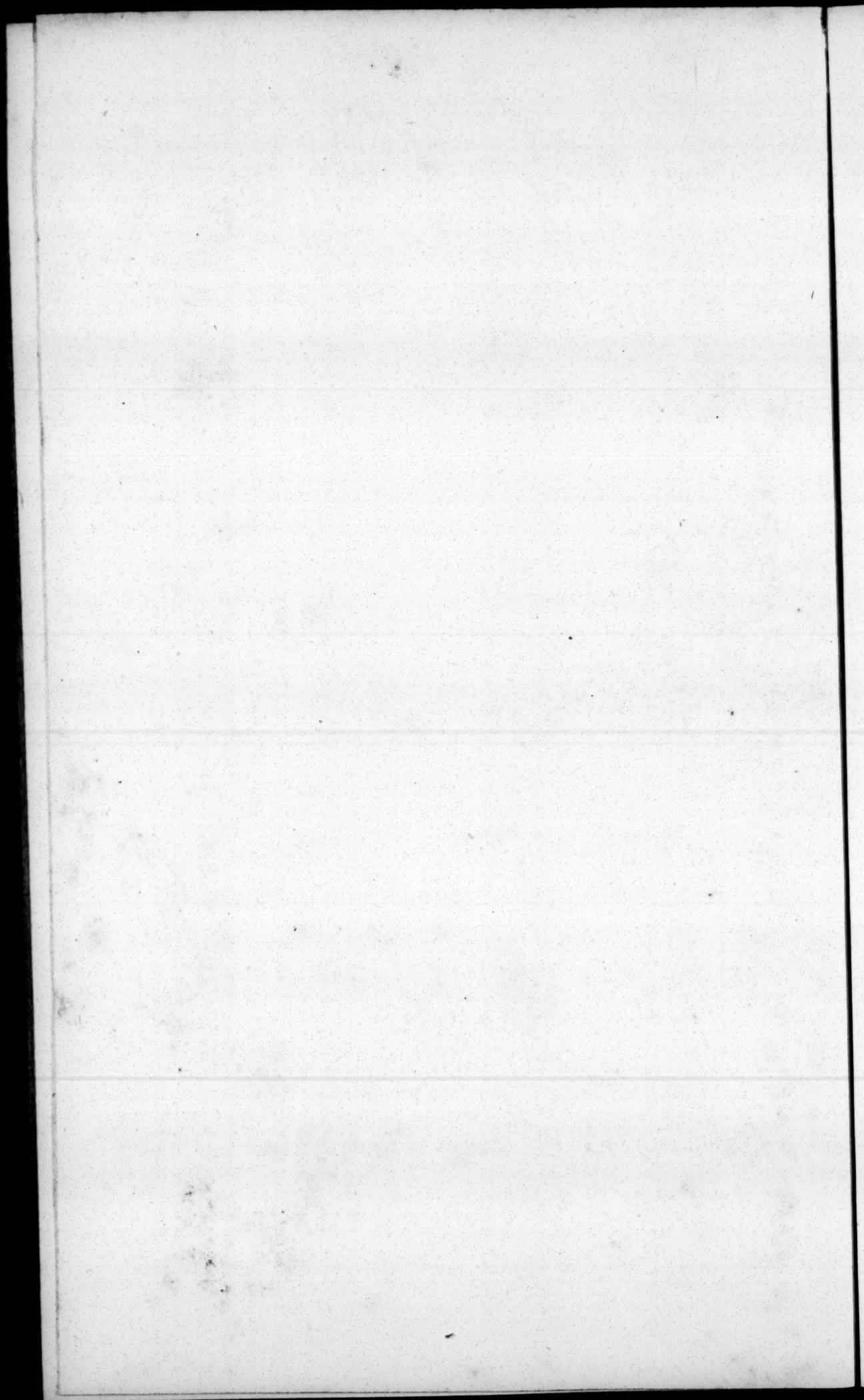
By this Improvement of the Bounty of Providence, Men of plentiful Fortunes may open to themselves an Entrance to higher Degrees of Glory in the Regions of Bliss and Immortality. Riches and a generous, charitable Disposition, when they meet together, are a Blessing to Mankind, a Sight most honourable and lovely in the Eyes of our Fellow-creatures, most acceptable and grateful to GOD ; *who is well pleased with such Sacrifices.*

BUT

BUT shining Heaps, where the Indulgence of Heaven has been abused, through Pride, Oppression or Luxury, cannot obtain one Drop of Water to cool the Tongue of *Dives* in the Flames.

It is hoped these Considerations will influence those; who are in easy and affluent Circumstances to make a proper Use of their Riches, by contributing liberally to the Relief of their distressed Fellow-creatures; which will afford them the high and *true Luxury* of being pleased with doing Good, and secure to them the Favour and Protection of GOD; who delighteth in the Happiness of his Creatures.

F I N I S.





I N D E X.

A

- A** EMILIUS, P. a glorious Instance of
his Patriotism, 354
Agriculture, ——— 161, &c.
Alehouses the chief Causes of the Poor's
Dissipation and Distresses, 17, 24, 25.
This Opinion confirmed by an Induc-
tion of Facts, 19, 23; originally in-
tended for the Accommodation of Tra-
vellers, 25; the Number of them more
than 40000, 29; should be reduced, 26, 27.
Almshouses for the Accommodation of the
aged, ——— 60.
Apology for this Publication, 6, 7.

B

- Bambuck, ——— 324.
Barbary, Reflections on the States of,
——— ——— 329, 332.
Bounty

- Bounty on Corn censured, 240.
 Bread, the Assize of, too much limited,
 ————— 226.
 Brewers and Distillers the Causes of the Po-
 verty and Death of the Poor, 33, 36.
 Brewing their own Beer a great Advantage
 to the Poor, ————— 28.
 Building, ————— 335, 338.

C

- Campagnon, ————— 323.
 Charity, real Objects of, ————— 57.
 Christianity, the sublime Doctrines, refined
 Duties of, promote the Happiness of
 States, ————— 371, &c.
 Colbert, ————— 320.
 Corporation Laws, &c. destructive to
 Trade and Liberty, ————— 128, 133.

D

- Distillery, bad Effects of the, 250.

E

- Eugenio, ————— 337.
 Example of Princes has great Influence in
 forming the Manners of their Subjects,
 ————— 360, 5.
 Fisheries,

F

- Fisheries, the Advantages of, 277.
 Foundling Hospital, the Rules observed in
 it for bringing up young Children, ex-
 cellent, ————— 102.

G

- Good, various Methods of doing, 133, 140
 Governors of Hospitals, Workhouses, &c.
 Persons of Rank, 115, &c.

H

- Hales, Dr. a Benefactor to Mankind, 251.
 Harte, Mr. ————— 208.
 Henry the IV. of France, noble Wishes of,
 ————— 286, 352.
 Houses to be licenced for selling Twelve-
 shilling Beer, for the Benefit of the lower
 Class of People, 28.
 ————— of Correction to be converted into
 Houses of Industry, 58.

I

- Jenyns, Esq; Soame, 302, 5.
 Inclosing, dividing and leasing out of Fo-
 rests, Commons, &c. recommended,
 ————— 196, 205.
 Industry, the powerful Tendency of,
 ————— 124, 128.
 Industry-

Industry-houses, Reasons for not erecting, 6, 63.
 _____ injure the Health of the
 Poor, _____ 80, 87.

K

Knowledge, Strictures upon Improvements
 in, _____ 106, 109.

L

Labour, the Prices of, affected by the
 Prices of Provisions, 278, 287.
 Licences 38, Conditions of granting 41,
 should be granted only to old People,
 _____ 44.
 Locke, Mr. _____ 293, 9.
 Luxury fatal to States, 32, 3. A View
 of its Progress in this Kingdom, 334, 345.
 Lyons, the Excellency of the Police of,
 _____ 114

M

Manure, the different Sorts of, 163, 195.
 Marshal Schwerin, a fine Saying of, 287.
 Merchant, a wise Saying of a, 320.
 Middleton, Dr. a beautiful Reflection of
 his, _____ 346, 7.
 Mildmay Sir—'s Account of the Ineffi-
 cacy of Workhouses in France, 68, 80.
 Militia, _____ 349.
 Millers

I N D E X. 380

Millers, a View of their Profits, 223.
 ——— may be restrained from taking un-
 reasonable Profits, 226, 230.
 Monomotapa, ——— 328.

N

Nation, a Proposal for considering it as one
 Parish, ——— 49.
 National Debt, Reflections on the, 311, 328

O

Oath, the solemn Method of administering
 it in Scotland, 50.
 Oeconomy recommended to the Poor,
 ——— 251, &c.
 ——— has *rendered* the Swifs rich, 325.
 Overseers, the Conduct of some, 110.

P

Pinto, Mr. the Author acknowledges his
 Obligations to him, 353.
 Plato, Dr. Forster and M. Grou's Opinions
 of Serranus and Ficinus's Translations
 of his Works, ——— 360.
 Poor, the great Importance of the Industri-
 ous, 1, 3. The Causes of their Idle-
 ness and Distress, 4, 5, 43, 45. A
 Proposal for their Relief, 3, 8, 36, 141,
 ——— 145, &c.
Poor

- Poor Children, a Scheme for educating,
 ————— 87, 106.
 Poor Man, a remarkable Instance of the
 Gratitude and Industry of a, 114.
 Poor Rates amazingly high, squandered,
 &c. ————— 13, 15, 47.
 Pressing, ————— 350.
 Price, Dr. his Reasoning in Favour of
 Friendly Societies, 157, 160.
 Prices of Beet and Pork for 5 Years in the
 Navy Office, 267, &c. Provisions, the Dear-
 ness of, occasioned by the Seasons, 237,
 240. By the Bounty, 240, 262. By the
 Increase of Consumption, 263. By the
 Exportation of Horses, 264, 266. By
 the long Credit of the Great, &c. 271,
 274. By fraudulent Practices, 274, 277.
 By the Increase of Riches, 290, 293.
 By Taxes, 293, 308.

R

- Religion has great Power in subduing the
 Passions and making Mankind virtuous,
 ————— 365, &c.
 Revenue, the Effects of restraining the Tap
 upon it considered, 31, 37, 40. Defici-
 ency in the, should not come in Compe-
 tition with the Morals, Lives, &c. 42
 Richardson, Mr. ————— 302.
 Riches, when not abused, a great Blessing
 to Mankind ————— 373, &c.
 Schools,

S

- Schools, Quæries relating thereto, 206.
 Settlements, Trials about, 49, 48. The
 Opinion of an able and worthy Lawyer
 in Favor of them 53, 56.
 Sick and diseased, Proposals for the,
 ————— 110, 114.
 Sully's Scheme for raising Timber, 206, 7.

T

- Taxation, a new Mode of, proposed, 308,
 31. Objects of, 357, 9.
 Timber, the Growth of to be encouraged,
 ————— 205, 214.
 Tucker, Mr. Dean, a Friend to Mankind,
 ————— 251.

V

- Vagrants, very numerous—a Nuisance,
 8, 57. Method of correcting and
 reforming them,—A French Memorial
 relating to them, 12, 13.
 Venetian Ambassador, the Observation of
 a, applicable to England, 326.
 View, a comparative one of the Advan-
 tages of Agriculture and the Woollen
 Manufactory, ——— 217, 222.

Wallet,

W

- Wallet 8000 Livres a Year, 8.
 Willes's Judge, Opinion of the Cause of
 the Misery of the Poor, 18, 19.
 Wealth, the various Sources of, 161, 163.
 Wimpey, Mr. ——— 216
 Workhouses, a Scheme for erecting them,
 15. The Benefits and Disadvantages of
 them considered, 118, 124.
 Woolwich, the People of, &c. have ef-
 fectually reduced the Price of Bread,
 Flour, and Butcher's Meat, by raising
 Subscriptions for erecting Mills, and
 Bakehouses, and slaughtering Bullocks,
 Sheep, &c. 231, 234, 270, 288, 9.



E R R A T A.

P. 1, L. 15 *for* requiring *read* require. P. 5, L. 3, *for* to *read* do. P. 13, L. 16, *for* in *read* than. P. 17, L. 8, *for* Suffe-boards *read* Shuffle-boards. P. 20, L. 19, *for* the *read* they. P. 23, L. 20, *for* instead *read* Instead. L. 23, *for* they *read* their Parents. P. 28, L. 9, *for* under *read* Under. P. 31, L. 2, *for* ~~it~~ *read* ~~it~~. P. 38, L. 10, *after* that *read* the P. 41, last Line *after* only *add* 10l from the Public house Keeper, and the like sum from the Person; who engages for his good Behavior. P. 60, L. 8, *for* Regularities *read* Regulations P. 67, L. 21, *for* Communication *read* Communication. P. 80, L. 14, *for* Rancinefs *read* Rancidnefs P. 81, L. 5, *after* *as* *add* *the*; 85 *read* interferences. P. 94, L. 14, *for* also *read* likewise. P. 109, L. 10, *for* rather than *read* as well as; L. 12, *for* as well *read* not less; *for* as *read* than P. 124, L. 11, *for* this Plan *read* the Plan exhibited in this Work. P. 125, L. 20, *after* tempted *add* and; *dele* and harrassed. P. 165, L. 25, *for* Oilcake *read* Oil-cakes. P. 173, L. 5, *for* incouraged *read* encouraged. P. 201, L. 23, *for* Pinington *read* Penington. P. 209, L. 25, *for* 10 *read* 102. P. 214, L. 24, *after* *for* *add* in. P. 215, L. 1, *for* a-bounds *read* abounding. L. 2, *dele* is. L. 3, *for*; *read* And *and* *dele* are; P. 216, L. 4, *after* Writers *add* *P. 219, L. 11, *for* and *read*, such as. P. 220, L. 17, *after* principal *add* Share. P. 221, L. 1, *for* come in *read* move to. P. 223, L. 10, *for* W——m *read* M——m. P. 237, L. *after* the *read* unreasonable Profits of Millers. p. 247, L. *for* the *read* their. p. 254, L. 15, *for* will *read* to. L. 23, *for*, *write*; p. 260, L. 17, *for* 8 *read* 4. p. 291, L. 11, *for* Quantities *read* Quantities. p. 309, L. 20, *for* Le *read* Ce. p. 320, L. 24, *for* pous fairé *read* Nous faire. L. 25, *for* Colbart *read* Colbert. L. 26, *read* Negotiant. L. 27, *read* demandoit.

